

FEBRUARY

No. 14

10c



ANC

T-MAN

WORLD WIDE TROUBLE-SHOOTER

YOU HAVE DONE WELL, HERR TRASK... U.S. TREASURY AGENT! YOU'VE FOUND OUT SOMETHING THAT NO ONE OUTSIDE THIS ROOM KNOWS!

Is it really HITLER?
HIS DEATH HAS NEVER BEEN PROVED!
HAS PETE TRASK STUMBLERD ON A SECRET THAT WILL STARTLE THE WORLD?

*Don't miss-***TROUBLE IN BAVARIA**



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Occupation _____ Age _____

PAY DOCTOR BILLS

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PAY OLD DEBTS

NEW POCKET APPLICATOR

REPLATES HOME and AUTO METALS FAST

FOR DRAMATIC NEW FINISH - NEW BRILLIANCE!

FOR HOUSEWARES

SILVERPLATE - METALPLATE - GOLDPLATE
DO IT AT HOME QUICKLY, EASILY.

Think of it — Now you can keep all your precious Silver, Chrome, Nickel — Yes, even Gold Treasures as beautiful as new with this new invention — the **POCKET APPLI-COTER**.

TOUCH-UP ALL WORN SPOTS IN A JIFFY!

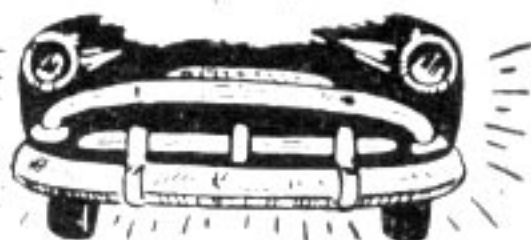
It's so easy and simple to Re-plate and touch-up every worn spot, stain, "blister", on spoon bowls, edges of knife handles, rims and handles of precious hollow-ware, Jewelry, etc. For this new invention applies a **SILVER, METAL or GOLD** plating wherever you use it, becomes part of the metal itself!

QUICKLY BUILDS-UP A THICK NEW PLATING WITH EACH APPLICATION.

COMPLETE SETS WITH APPLICATOR
MET-L-COTE or SILV-R-COTE with Applicator **\$3.75**
COMBINATION SET
Both MET-L-COTE and SILV-R-COTE with Applicator **\$5.95**
GOLD-COTE with Special Gold Brush Applicator **\$5.95**

AUTO TRIM CHROME AND NICKEL

Just watch your car's trim come to a brilliant new sparkle after applying **MET-L-COTE**



. . . and remember, each time you electroplate with the "Pocket Applicator" you build up a lasting layer of coating that tremendously lengthens the life of original trim. **MET-L-COTE** is constantly used in leading hospitals, doctors and dentists offices to re-store surgical instruments . . . and in hotels and restaurants to restore cutlery.

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Please rush the New Pocket Applicator and replating solutions I have checked below. I enclose full price, send postpaid, or send C.O.D. plus postage.

☐ **MET-L-COTE** — \$3.75 ☐ **SILV-R-COTE** — \$3.75
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A THICKER PLATING WITH EACH COAT!

MET-L-COTE—Replates, Restores **CHROME, NICKEL, BRASS, COPPER, STEEL, IRON or BRONZE.**

SILV-R-COTE—Replates, Restores **SILVER.**

GOLD-COTE—Pure 24 Karat **GOLD** Solution. Restores original luster to worn or tarnished valuable Gold jewelry and other Gold items.

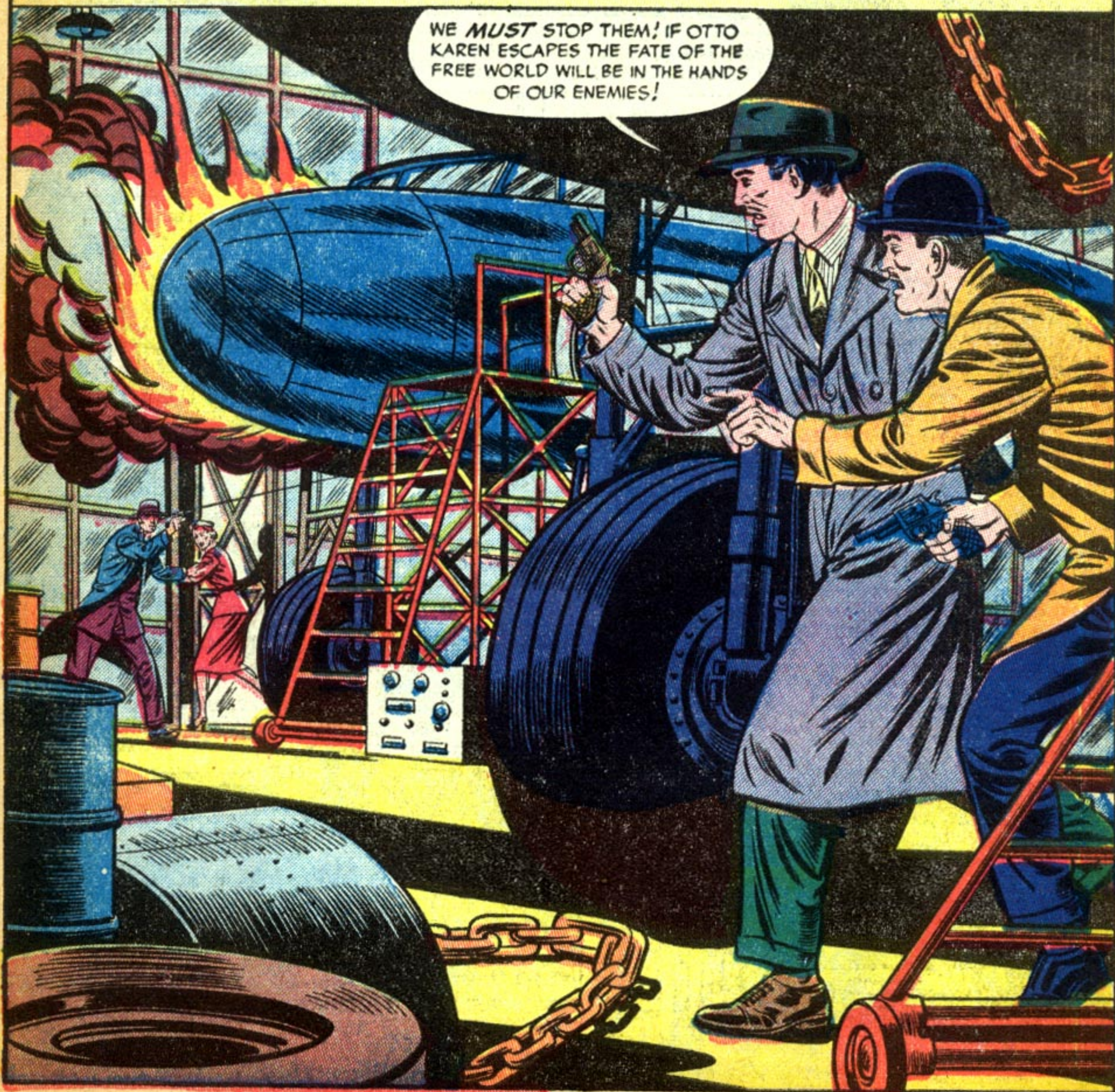
RESTORE YOUR TREASURES—MAKE THEM VALUABLE AGAIN

T-MAN

IT WAS A HELL WEAPON THREATENING THE PEOPLES OF THE FREE WORLD... DEADLY AS A DOZEN H-BOMBS YET SMALL ENOUGH TO FIT INTO A YOUNG BOY'S POCKET! TO FIND IT WAS T-MAN. PETE TRASK'S MISSION... AND HIS RACE WAS AGAINST TIME AND THE INCREDIBLE CRAFTINESS OF A PROFESSIONAL SPY! THUS, THE WORLD WAITED WITH BAITED BREATH AS THE T-MAN WAGED DESPERATE BATTLE TO ERASE THE FEARFUL TERRORS OF THE AGE MACHINE AND STOP THE...

ULTIMATUM OF DOOM!

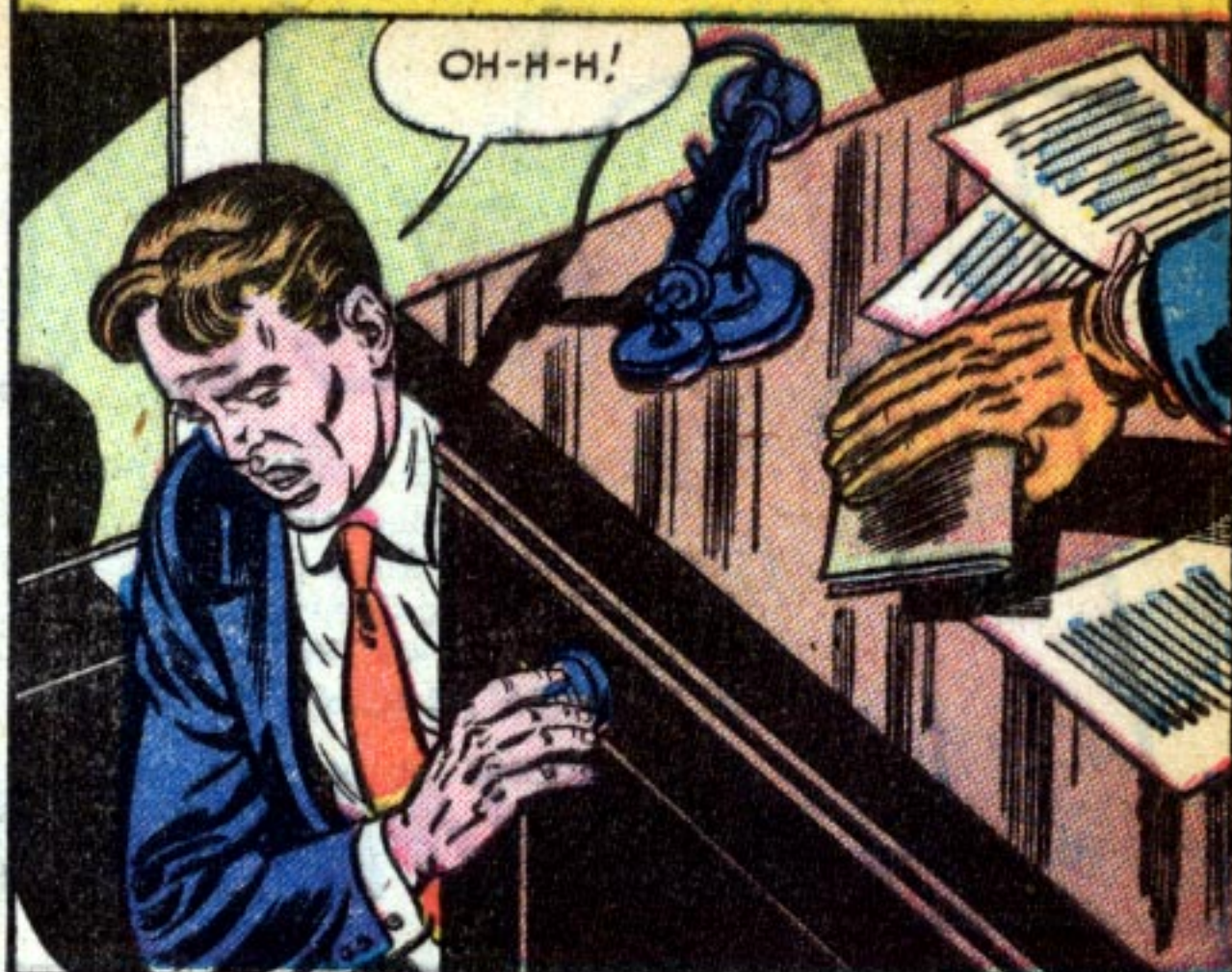
WE *MUST* STOP THEM! IF OTTO KAREN ESCAPES THE FATE OF THE FREE WORLD WILL BE IN THE HANDS OF OUR ENEMIES!



THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY IN LONDON -- A DARK FIGURE MOVES TOWARD A CLERK IN THE CODE ROOM! SUDDENLY, A SHOT RINGS OUT...



THEN, AS THE ASSASSIN'S HAND REACHES OUT...



THE VITAL ALARM RESOUNDS THROUGHOUT THE BUILDINGS AND THE FURTIVE KILLER RACES AGAINST TIME TOWARD THE GATES THAT ARE CLOSING OUT HIS ESCAPE...



WITHIN AN HOUR, THE SHOCKING NEWS BRINGS HIGH OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON TOGETHER AT AN EMERGENCY MEETING!

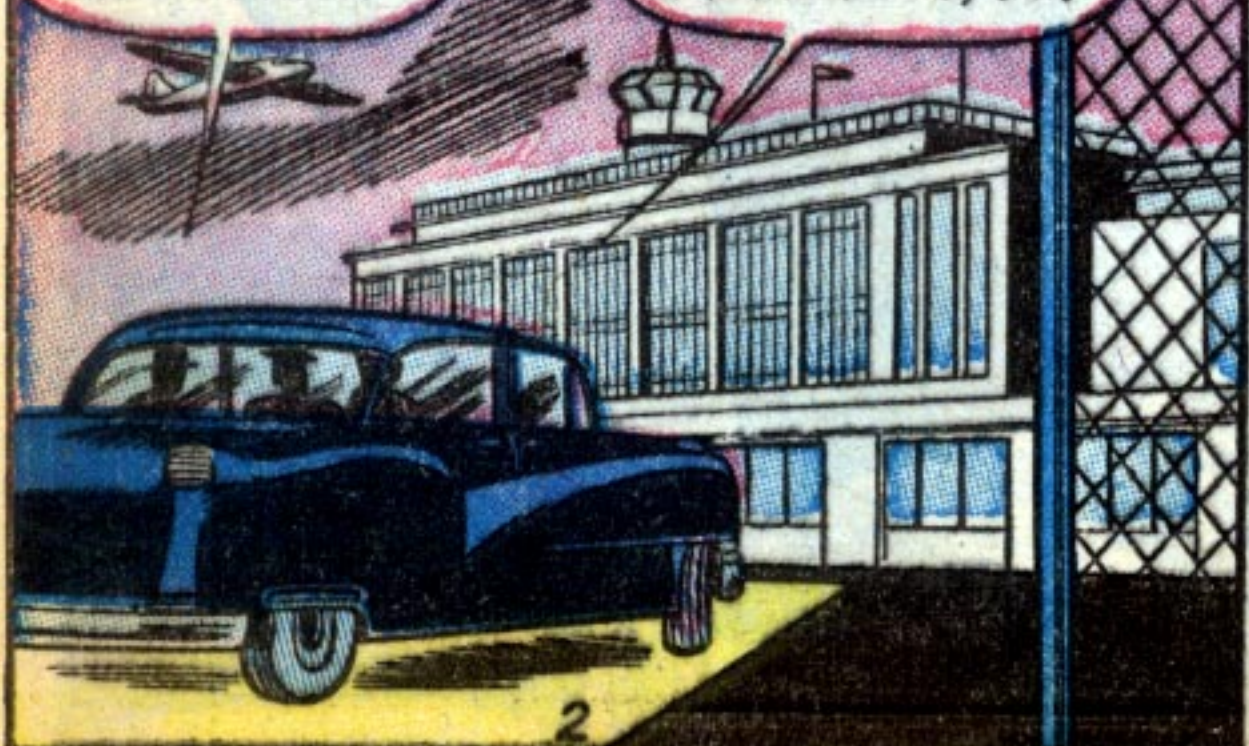
MASTER CODE BOOK STOLEN U.S. EMBASSY, LONDON -- UNKNOWN ENEMY AGENT -- THEFT 12:04 -- EMERGENCY MEASURES IN EFFECT...



AND SHORTLY ACE TREASURY AGENT, PETE TRASK, IS RUSHED TO THE WASHINGTON AIRPORT...

IT'S LIKE A LIGHTNING BOLT FROM THE BLUE, PETE! WE'VE NO TIME TO HOLD CONFERENCES OR MAKE DECISIONS! THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF ORDERED AN AGENT BE DISPATCHED VIA JET BOMBER IMMEDIATELY!

I UNDERSTAND, SIR!



WE'VE ALREADY SWITCHED TO A NEW MASTER CODE-- BUT THE DIPLOMATIC INFORMATION THAT CAN BE DECIPHERED IN THE STOLEN CODE IS VITAL! IF IT FALLS INTO ENEMY HANDS WITHIN 48 HOURS, IT CAN REVEAL FAR EASTERN ALLIANCES THAT COULD PRECIPITATE A WAR!

I SEE! THEN MY JOB IS TO MAKE SURE THE CODE REMAINS OUT OF ENEMY HANDS FOR 48 HOURS!



THE
HISSING
JET
MONSTER
WINGS
ACROSS
THE
ATLANTIC!
THE FATE
OF A
NATION,
PERHAPS
OF THE
WORLD,
COULD
HANG
ON THE
TIGHT-
LIPPED
AGENT
INSIDE...



TENSE HOURS PASS UNTIL TRASK STANDS IN THE U.S. EMBASSY IN LONDON! GRIM ENGLISH AGENTS AND SCOTLAND YARD OFFICIALS HAVE GONE OVER THE CODE ROOM WITH A FINE-TOOTH COMB...

THANK YOU, GENTLEMEN! I'VE TAKEN NOTES ON YOUR VERY THOROUGH INVESTIGATION! I'D BETTER RETURN TO MY HOTEL AND STUDY THEM! I'LL KEEP IN CONSTANT TOUCH WITH YOU!

VERY GOOD, TRASK! WE'LL BE DOING THE SAME AT THE YARD! LET'S HOPE SOMETHING SHOWS UP TO GIVE US A LEAD!



LATER, AS AMERICA'S KEY AGENT POURS OVER THE NOTES...

LET'S SEE... A DARK FIGURE SEEN BY GUARD... ABOUT SIX FOOT... SLIGHTLY HEAVY... DEATH BULLET AN ENGLISH .38 CALIBER... NOT MUCH TO GO ON THERE...



MR. PETE TRASK, IF YOU WILL LOOK IN YOUR MAIL BOX IN THE LOBBY YOU WILL FIND A MOST INTERESTING DOCUMENT...
?CLICK?

WHAT'S THAT? WHO IS THIS? WHO'S SPEAKING? WELL, I'LL BE DARNED -- HUNG UP ON ME!



ABRUPTLY, TRASK HURRIES TO THE LOBBY AND...

I DON'T KNOW WHO LEFT IT, SIR! WE FOUND IT LYING ON THE DESK ADDRESSED TO YOU!

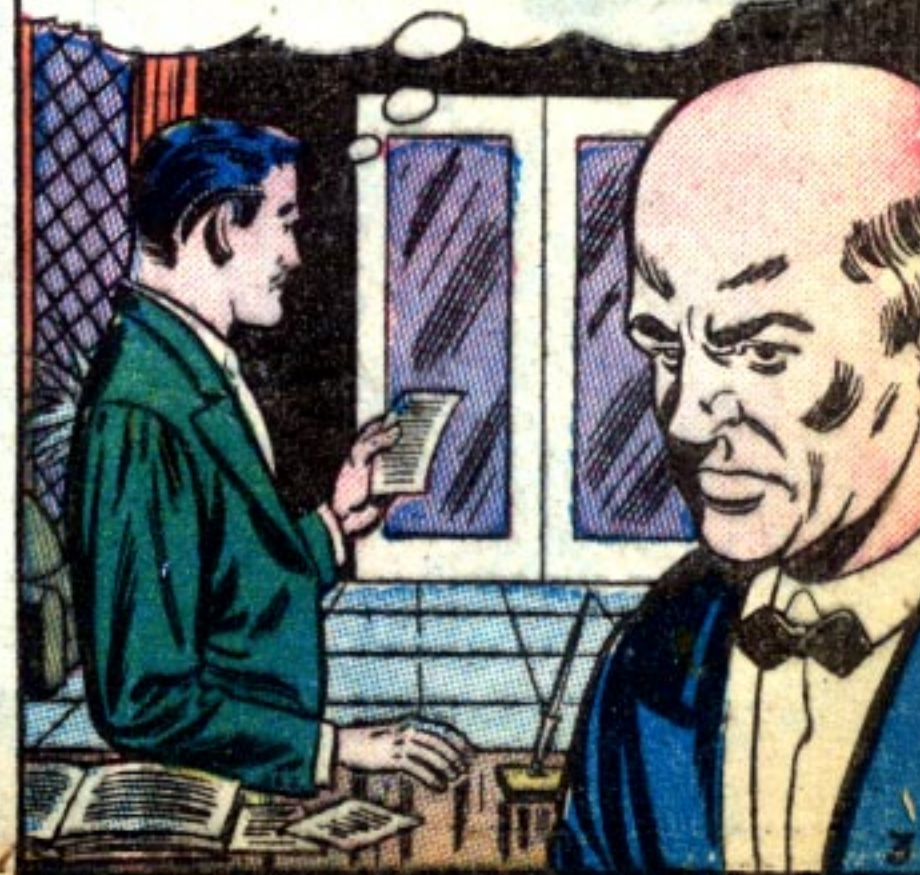
OKAY, THANKS!



GREAT CATS! I'VE GOT MY LEAD ALL RIGHT! RIGHT BETWEEN THE EYES!

IF YOU SEEK THE STOLEN MASTER CODE BOOK OBEY INSTRUCTIONS -- WALK EAST THROUGH CHAUNCEY PARK -- TURN LEFT AT EATON PLACE -- THEN CONTINUE ON TOWARD DAINSBURY BRIDGE -- DO SO AT ONCE -- NOTIFY AUTHORITIES OF THIS AND THE ENEMY WILL RECEIVE THE CODE... IMMEDIATELY!

REGULATIONS SAY I SHOULD NOTIFY MY SUPERIORS OF THIS -- BUT THIS CASE IS A LIFE AND DEATH MATTER FOR NATIONS! I CAN'T RISK FUMBLING THE WORLD INTO WAR -- BETTER RISK NOT OBEYING ORDERS IN CASE I'M WATCHED!



T-MAN

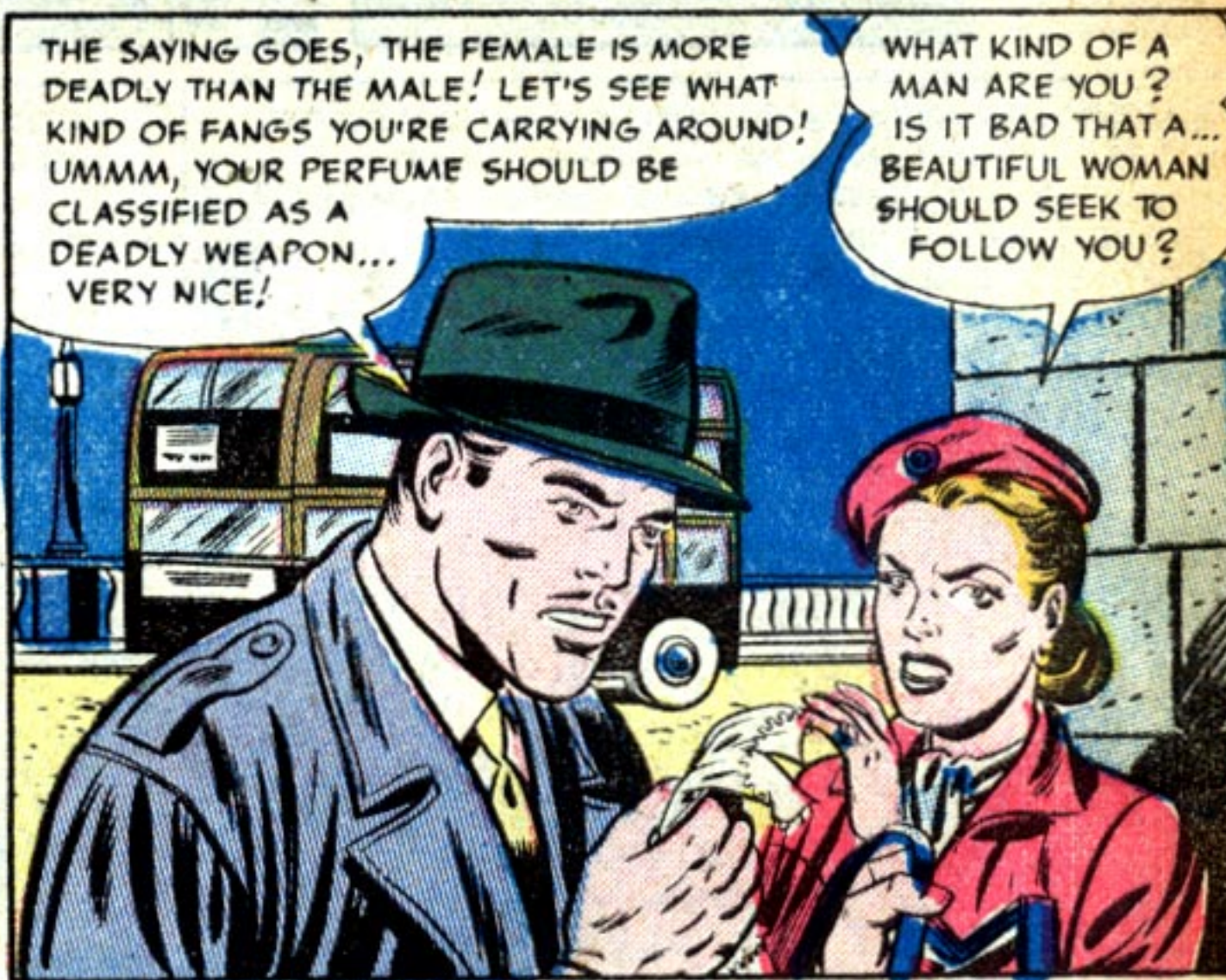
WALK EAST THROUGH CHAUNCEY PARK... TURN LEFT AT EATON PLACE... CONTINUE ON TOWARD DAINSBURY BRIDGE...



SUDDENLY...

OH-H!

SORRY, HONEY! BUT EVEN BEAUTIFUL WOMEN DON'T HAVE A LICENSE TO TAG ME AROUND TOWN!



THE SAYING GOES, THE FEMALE IS MORE DEADLY THAN THE MALE! LET'S SEE WHAT KIND OF FANGS YOU'RE CARRYING AROUND! UMMM, YOUR PERFUME SHOULD BE CLASSIFIED AS A DEADLY WEAPON... VERY NICE!

WHAT KIND OF A MAN ARE YOU? IS IT BAD THAT A... BEAUTIFUL WOMAN SHOULD SEEK TO FOLLOW YOU?



ABRUPTLY, A LID CLICKS OPEN ON THE GIRL'S RING AND...

STOP IT, YOU'RE SPOILING ME... UGH!

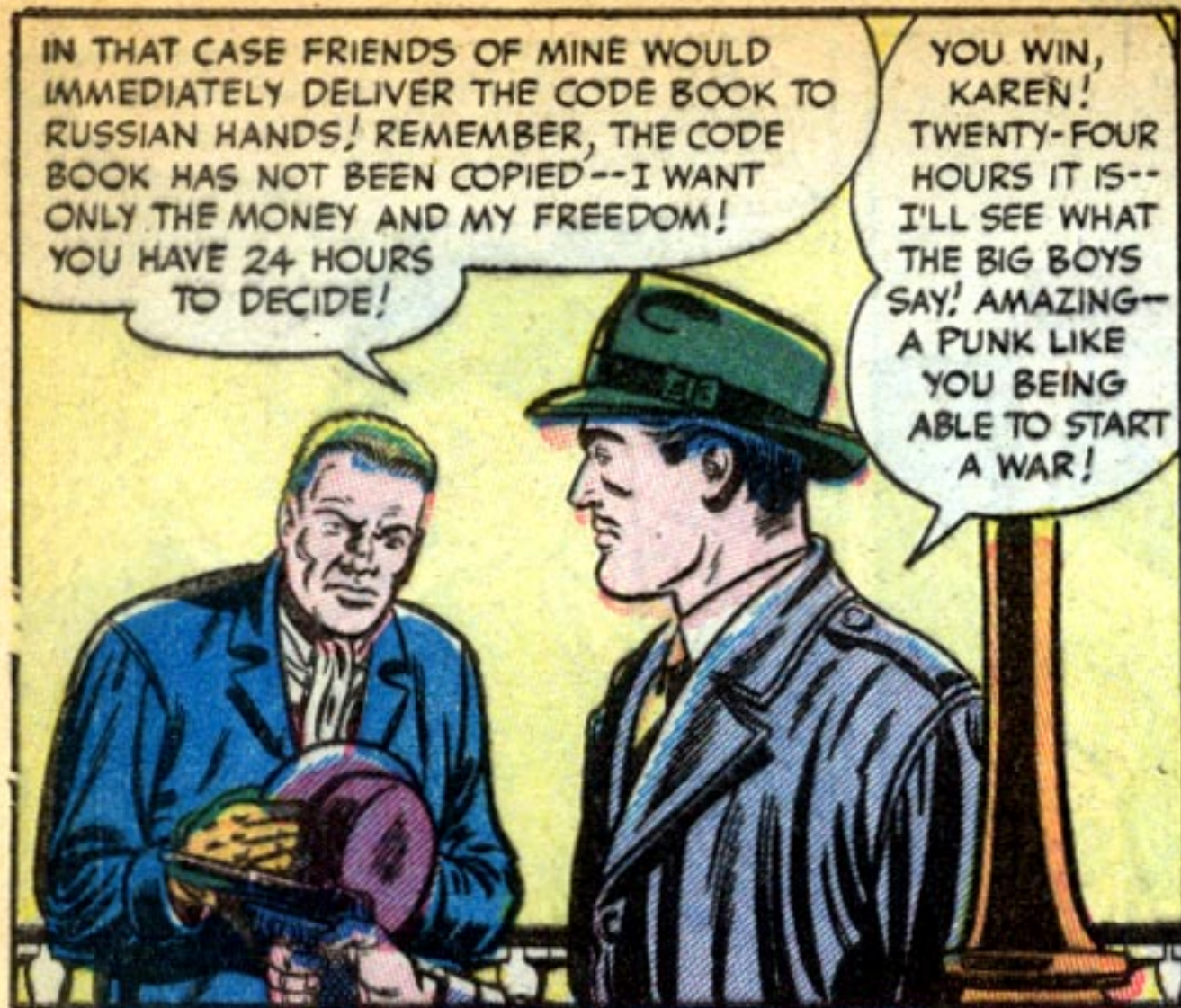


COUGH COUGH S-SULPHUR DUST! T-THE WITCH... TRICKED ME... COUGH COUGH



CAUGHT OFF BASE LIKE A ROOKIE! CAN'T GAMBLE GOING AFTER HER --- THE BIG APPOINTMENT'S STRAIGHT AHEAD! LOOKS LIKE SHE'S TIED IN WITH THIS SET UP --- OR IS SHE?





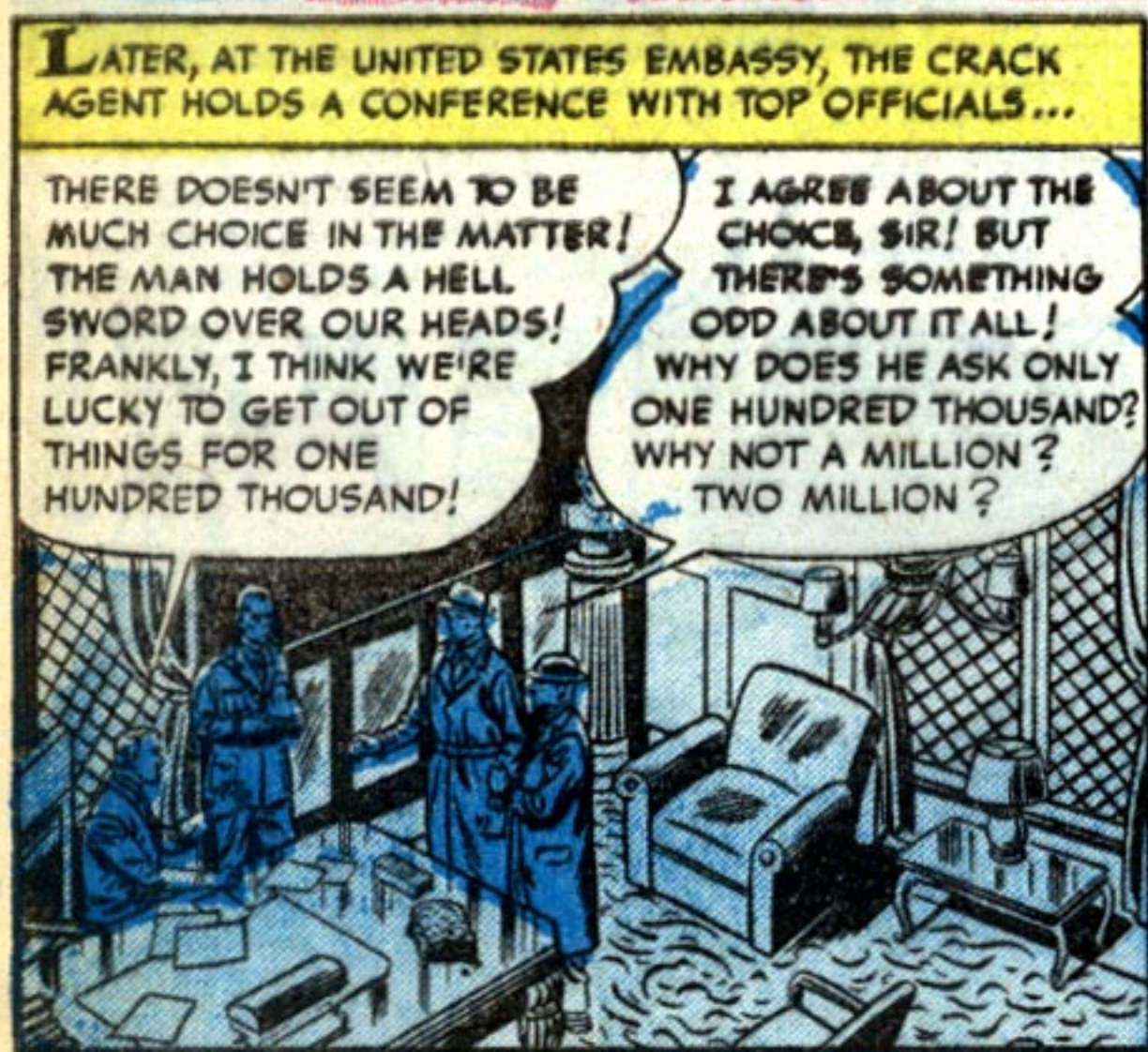
IN THAT CASE FRIENDS OF MINE WOULD IMMEDIATELY DELIVER THE CODE BOOK TO RUSSIAN HANDS! REMEMBER, THE CODE BOOK HAS NOT BEEN COPIED--I WANT ONLY THE MONEY AND MY FREEDOM! YOU HAVE 24 HOURS TO DECIDE!

YOU WIN, KAREN! TWENTY-FOUR HOURS IT IS--I'LL SEE WHAT THE BIG BOYS SAY! AMAZING--A PUNK LIKE YOU BEING ABLE TO START A WAR!



WE SHALL MEET HERE IN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS! AND, MR. TRASK, MY GUN, IF YOU PLEASE!

OH, SURE! BEG YOUR PARDON--I DIDN'T MEAN TO WALK OFF WITH YOUR COURAGE!



LATER, AT THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY, THE CRACK AGENT HOLDS A CONFERENCE WITH TOP OFFICIALS...

THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE MUCH CHOICE IN THE MATTER! THE MAN HOLDS A HELL SWORD OVER OUR HEADS! FRANKLY, I THINK WE'RE LUCKY TO GET OUT OF THINGS FOR ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND!

I AGREE ABOUT THE CHOICE, SIR! BUT THERE'S SOMETHING ODD ABOUT IT ALL! WHY DOES HE ASK ONLY ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND? WHY NOT A MILLION? TWO MILLION?



HE'S GOT HIS FREEDOM, REMEMBER, TRASK! THAT'S A BIG CONCESSION FOR LAW AND ORDER TO MAKE! HERE'S THE MONEY!

SURE! BUT REMEMBER ALSO, THIS KAREN HAS HAD HIS FREEDOM WITHOUT OUR HELP FOR YEARS! WELL, WE'LL SEE!



LATER, AS TRASK RETURNS TO THE RENDEZVOUS LOCATION...

WELL, WELL! LITTLE MISS SULPHUR POWDER! HOW ARE THINGS IN KNOCK-OUT ALLEY?

FOR SUCH AN ATTRACTIVE MAN YOU MAKE SUCH POOR JOKES, MR. TRASK! COME ALONG... OTTO IS WAITING FOR US ELSEWHERE!



THROUGH DIM BACK STREETS OF LONDON TRASK IS DRIVEN! FINALLY...

EXCELLENT WORK, MIRA! I'M HAPPY TO SEE THAT TRASK DID NOT UPSET YOUR PLANS THIS TIME! NOW THEN, DOWN TO BUSINESS, EH?

I'VE GOT THE MONEY--PRODUCE THE CODE BOOK!



THE CODE BOOK! A FAIR EXCHANGE IS NO ROBBERY, EH, TRASK?

THAT'S WHAT THEY TELL ME!

FROM THE IDENTIFICATION THEY GAVE ME THIS IS THE GENUINE BOOK ALL RIGHT! I WOULD HAVE SWORN KAREN WAS PULLING A FAST ONE ON US--- GUESS HIS PRICE FOR RACKETS HAS COME DOWN!

COME, MIRA! OUR FREEDOM HOUR HAS ARRIVED AND THERE IS MUCH ENJOYMENT AWAITING US ON THE CONTINENT! AUF WIEDERSEIN, HERR TRASK!

SO LONG, SPY BOY! WE'LL BE MEETING AGAIN! YOU CAN COUNT ON IT!



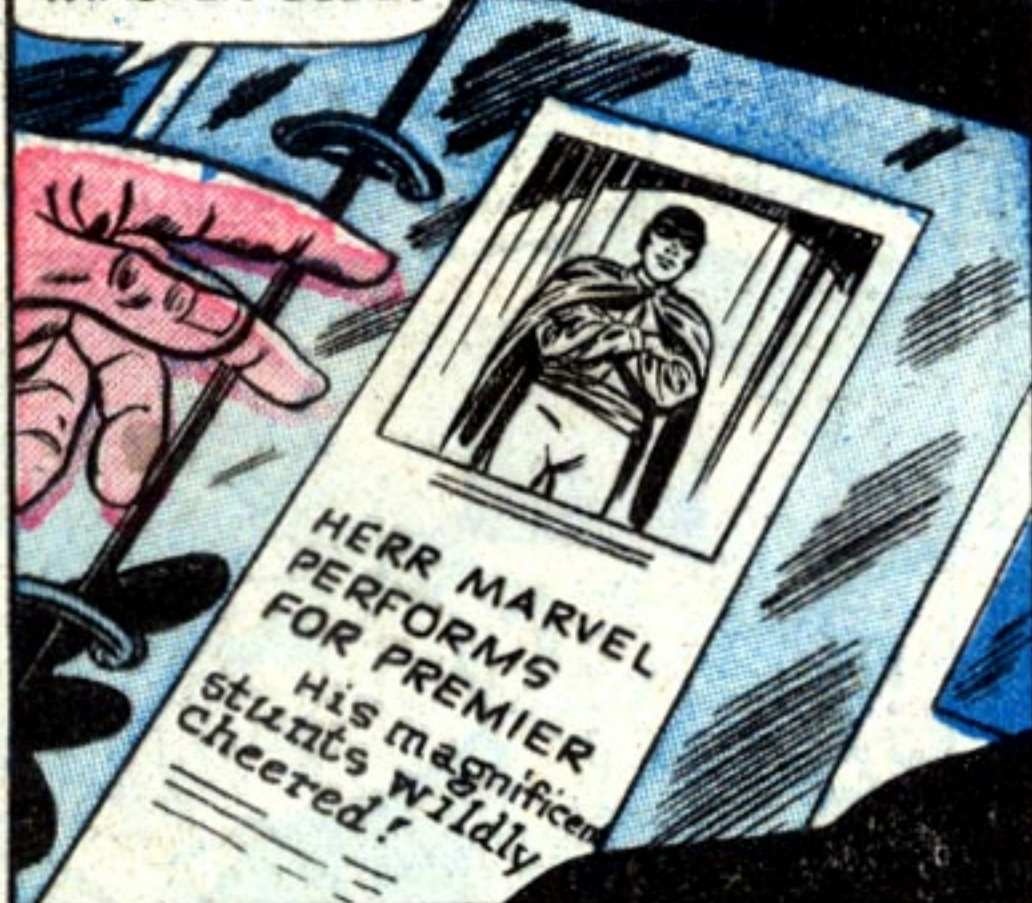
AFTER THE NOTORIOUS PAIR LEAVE, TRASK INSPECTS THE HIDEOUT OF THE FIRST MAN TO BLACKMAIL THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND GET AWAY WITH IT...

HM-M... APPARENTLY KAREN KEPT A SCRAP BOOK OF ALL HIS INFAMOUS ACTS! HE MUST HAVE FORGOTTEN IT IN HIS HASTE TO SPEND UNCLE SAM'S GREENBACKS!



THE T-MAN CASUALLY FLIPS THROUGH THE PAGES OF THE SPY'S BLACK PAST! THEN SUDDENLY HIS TRAINED EYE STUDIES A SEEMINGLY UNIMPORTANT CLIPPING...

G-GREAT SCOTT! KAREN'S OUTWITTED US-- HE'S STILL IN POSSESSION OF THE MASTER CODE!



THERE ISN'T TIME TO EXPLAIN, BRENT-- BUT I'M POSITIVE KAREN IS PULLING A FAST ONE! HAVE HIM HELD AT THE AIRPORT UNTIL I ARRIVE!

VERY WELL, TRASK! I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING -- IF IT APPEARS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS GONE BACK ON ITS WORD IT WILL HAVE INTERNATIONAL REPERCUSSIONS!



SHORTLY, AT LONDON'S INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT...

SO YOUR GOVERNMENT IS BREAKING ITS AGREEMENT TO FREE ME, EH, TRASK? SUCH UNDERHANDED METHODS WILL FURNISH THE COMMUNISTS WITH EXCELLENT PROPAGANDA!

YOU'RE THE CHISELER IN THIS DEAL, KAREN...OR SHOULD I USE YOUR PROFESSIONAL NAME OF HERR MARVEL... MEMORY ARTIST EXTRAORDINARY!

YOUR SCRAP BOOK WAS THE TIP OFF, KAREN! YOU MEMORIZED THE MASTER CODE WITH THE INTENTIONS OF GIVING IT TO THE ENEMY AFTER SELLING THE BOOK BACK TO US FOR MONEY AND FREEDOM!

YOU BLUNDERER! STEP BACK, EVERYONE... COME, MIRA!



SUDDENLY, THE PAIR BREAK INTO A RUN AND...

H-HURRY, OTTO... WE MUST ESCAPE!

KAREN MUSTN'T GET AWAY--- STOP HIM AT ALL COST!





WE'RE TRAPPED, OTTO-- WE CAN'T HOLD OUT HERE FOREVER!

THAT PLANE, MIRA-- IT GIVES ME AN IDEA! AGENT TRASK AND HIS FRIENDS WILL HAVE TO WALK THROUGH A WALL OF FLAME TO FOLLOW US!



THE DESPERATE SPY AIMS HIS WEAPON CAREFULLY AT THE FUSELAGE OF THE HANGARED TRANSPORT PLANE! THEN...

TAKE COVER! THAT BULLET HE'S FIRED INTO THE PLANE FUSELAGE WILL IGNITE THE FUEL!

W-WHAT HO!



SHORTLY, WHEN THE T-MAN INVESTIGATES THE DEBRIS...

I'M AFRAID THAT CLEVER CHARACTER IS WELL OUT OF OUR GRASP NOW, MR. TRASK!

YES... AND LOCKED WITHIN HIS MIND IS THE ABILITY TO START AN ALL OUT WAR! I'VE GOT TO STOP HIM FROM GETTING THAT INFORMATION TO RED AGENTS IN THE NEXT 27 HOURS! BUT HOW?

MEANWHILE, OTTO KAREN EMPLOYS ANOTHER DARING SCHEME TO ESCAPE THE COUNTRY...

YOU HAVE AIDED ME IN MY WORK BEFORE, DROGNER! AS A SCIENTIST YOU MUST BE AN EXPERT IN PHYSICAL DISGUISES! I NEED SUCH A DISGUISE IN ORDER TO ESCAPE FROM THIS COUNTRY AT ONCE!

INDEED I CAN BE OF BENEFIT TO YOU, KAREN! FOR I HAVE RECENTLY INVENTED AN "AGE" DISGUISE THAT WILL ALLOW YOU TO DECEIVE THE SHARPEST EYES OF YOUR ENEMIES!



"AGE" DISGUISE... JUST HOW IS IT ACHIEVED, DROGNER?

A FEW DROPS OF THIS LIQUID RUBBED UPON THE HUMAN FACE WILL AGE A MAN WELL PAST HIS YEARS--15, PERHAPS 20! BUT UNFORTUNATELY I HAVE NOT AS YET FOUND THE ANTIDOTE! YOU MAY HAVE TO REMAIN OLD FOREVER!



D-DO NOT BE A FOOL, OTTO! IMAGINE HOW IT WOULD BE TO LOOK OLD BEFORE YOUR TIME!

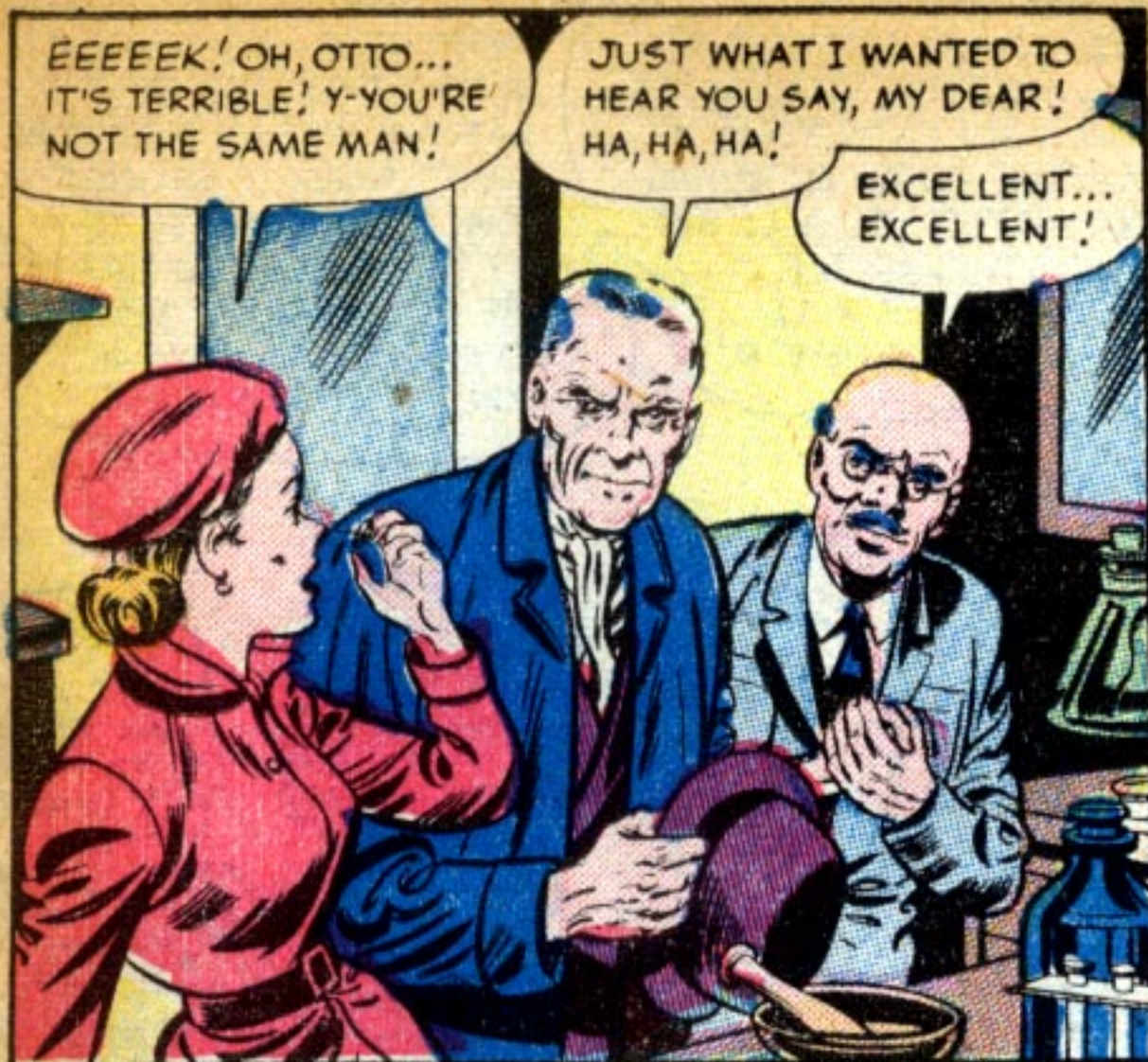
SILENCE, MIRA! I AM MORE CONCERNED WITH THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THE RED AGENTS ARE WILLING TO PAY FOR THE CODE--MY APPEARANCE IS SECONDARY, EH, DROGNER?

HA, HA... YOU ARE A GREEDY MAN, KAREN!



SPY KAREN APPLIES THE OMINOUS LIQUID AND AS THE MINUTES PASS A GROTESQUE CHANGE TAKES PLACE...





EEEEEEK! OH, OTTO... IT'S TERRIBLE! Y-YOU'RE NOT THE SAME MAN!

JUST WHAT I WANTED TO HEAR YOU SAY, MY DEAR! HA, HA, HA!

EXCELLENT... EXCELLENT!



AND NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE AN OLD MAN... HA, HA... I HAVE AN IMPORTANT DATE ON THE FRENCH BORDER WITH RED AGENTS! I'M AFRAID I MUST MAKE THIS TRIP ALONE, MIRA-- YOUR BEAUTIFUL PRESENCE WOULD DISCLOSE MY IDENTITY!

GOODBYE, MY FRIEND-- AND GOOD LUCK!

MEANWHILE, T-MAN TRASK USES A STRANGE METHOD IN TRACKING DOWN THE NOTORIOUS OTTO KAREN...

I SAY, TRASK--I DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND HOW TRACING THE PERFUME ON THAT LADY'S HANDKERCHIEF WILL LEAD US TO KAREN!

IT HAPPENS TO BE MIRA'S HANDKERCHIEF AND I KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT WOMEN TO REALIZE IT'S RARE AND QUITE EXPENSIVE! THROUGH HER I HOPE TO LOCATE THE ELUSIVE KAREN!



AH, NO... GENTLEMEN! I WILL STAKE MY REPUTATION THAT SUCH A PERFUME IS NOT ON THE MARKET!

I'M AFRAID THAT DOWNS US, PETE OLD BOY! THE LEAD'S A DUD!

PERHAPS SO... BUT WE'VE GOT TO FOLLOW IT THROUGH! THIS PERFUME IS OUR ONE AND ONLY LEAD TO OTTO KAREN!

THE DETERMINED TRASK CARRIES ON CHECKING DEALER AFTER DEALER! THINGS BEGIN TO APPEAR HOPELESS WHEN...

:SNIFF!:SNIFF! YES... I AM SURE OF IT! IT HAS THE SMELL OF THAT CRAZY CONCOCTION ALBERT DROGNER INSISTED WE MARKET AS PERFUME! THE FOOL!

QUICKLY... HIS ADDRESS! IT'S A MATTER OF THE UTMOST URGENCY!



PRESENTLY, IN THE LABORATORY OF ALBERT DROGNER...

STAND WHERE YOU ARE AND NO ONE WILL BE HURT!

T-TRASK! BUT HOW?

THE SWINE...



NOT SO FAST, BUSTER-- I'VE GOT A FEW QUESTIONS AND YOU'VE GOT THE ANSWERS!

LET ME GO! LET ME GO!



AND SHORTLY, AS TRASK QUESTIONS THE CAPTURED PAIR...

THE PENALTY FOR TREASON IS DEATH! YOU TWO HAD BETTER TELL US ABOUT KAREN, AND FAST! THINGS WILL GO A LOT EASIER WITH YOU!

WHY NOT? IT'S TOO LATE FOR YOU TO HARM HIM NOW! KAREN USED MY INGENIOUS "AGE" DISGUISE TO ESCAPE! HA, HA! HE BOARDED A PLANE RIGHT BEFORE THE EYES OF YOUR STUPID MEN HOURS AGO!

YES! AT ANY MOMENT HE WILL MEET THE RED AGENTS AND TURN OVER YOUR MASTER CODE! OTTO HAS OUTWITTED YOU ALL! BUT IT WAS A TERRIBLE SACRIFICE-- HE WILL REMAIN OLD FOREVER!

FOREVER, EH--HMM-M! IF THAT DISGUISE OF KAREN'S WAS SO CLEVER WE MIGHT WORK IT AGAINST HIM! IT'S A LONG SHOT--- BUT WE'VE NOTHING TO LOSE NOW! ARREST THESE TWO INSPECTOR-- I'VE GOT IMPORTANT BUSINESS!



ARRIVING AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY, T-MAN TRASK SETS HIS DARING PLAN INTO OPERATION VIA WIRELESS RADIO...

TO AMERICAN AGENT F-4! RETURN TO HEADQUARTERS AT ONCE -- KNOW THAT YOU ARE IMPERSONATING OTTO KAREN, HAS LEAKED OUT... TO AMERICAN AGENT F-4...



SEVERAL MINUTES LATER, IN A FIELD NEAR THE BORDER OTTO KAREN RUNS INTO UNFORSEEN DIFFICULTIES...

IF YOU ARE OTTO KAREN WHERE IS YOUR IDENTITY?

IDIOT! I HAD TO DESTROY MY CREDENTIALS IN ORDER TO LEAVE ENGLAND!

LIAR! I MET OTTO IN VIENNA-- HE WAS NOT AN OLD MAN!



BUT I HAVE TOLD YOU-- I AM WEARING AN "AGE" DISGUISE! IT WAS THE ONLY WAY I COULD ESCAPE WITHOUT BEING RECOGNIZED!

A DISGUISE THAT CANNOT BE REMOVED? WE ARE NOT FOOLS! CONFESS--YOU ARE THE AMERICAN AGENT WHO WAS SENT TO POSE AS KAREN!



LET THIS BE A LESSON TO ALL AMERICAN FOOLS! KILL THE SPY!

NO! NO! I AM OTTO KAREN! I AM OTTO... YAAAAAAA!



THREE DAYS LATER, T-MAN TRASK AND AGENTS FIND EVIDENCE WHICH SETS THEIR MINDS AT EASE...

IT APPEARS YOUR IDEA TO INVESTIGATE THE GERMAN BORDER WAS A GOOD ONE, TRASK! THE REDS FELL FOR THE TRAP--- THEY MISTOOK KAREN FOR THE SO-CALLED AMERICAN AGENT!

YES... KAREN'S OWN CLEVERNESS BROUGHT ABOUT HIS DEATH! FOR IF HE HADN'T UTILIZED THE "AGE" DISGUISE HE'D BE ALIVE AND OUR MASTER CODE WOULD BE IN ENEMY HANDS AT THIS MOMENT!



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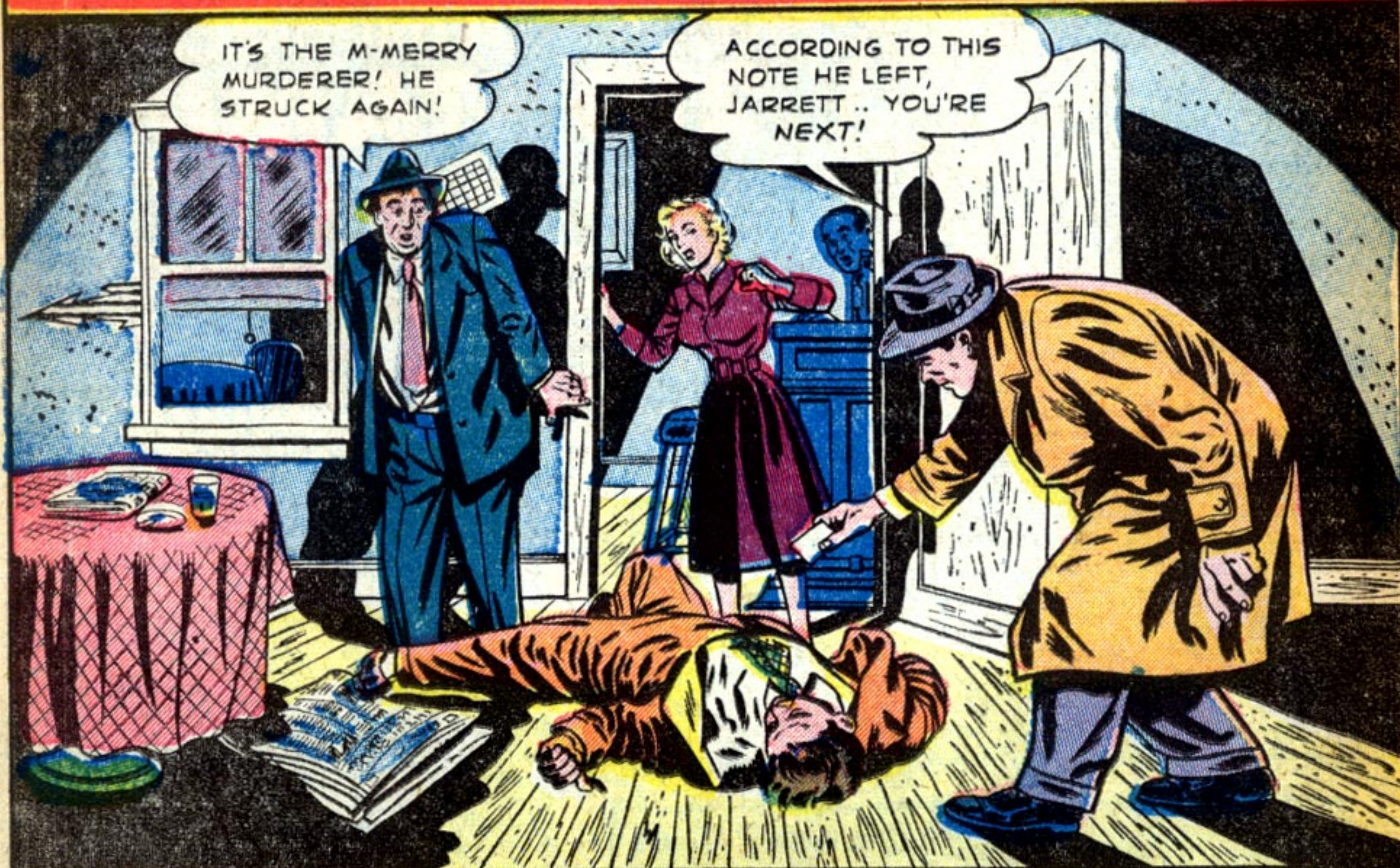
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After 7 days' examination, I may return everything (except German Inflation Money, which I may keep FREE) and you will return my dollar AND my postage. Or I will keep the kit and the 210 FREE STAMPS, and you may keep my dollar as payment in full.

Name.....
Address.....
City.....State.....

THE
CASE
OF
THE

MERRY MURDERER



SOMETIMES A PRIVATE CITIZEN WILL CONTACT THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT WITH INFORMATION CONCERNING CRIMINALS! IN CASE # 17682, A MILLIONAIRE NAMED PHILIP JARRETT TOLD THE T-MEN HE HAD CONDUCTED A PRIVATE WAR OF VENGEANCE AGAINST A COUNTERFEITING MOB -- AND USED HIS OWN INVESTIGATORS TO GET THE GOODS ON THEM! ALL THAT REMAINED WAS THE TRAP TO BE SPRUNG BY JARRETT'S AGENTS!! - - -

IN A SHADOWY HALLWAY,
DOWNTOWN, ONE RAINY NIGHT...

MR. JARRETT, IS THAT YOU??
MR. JARRETT, W-WHY DON'T
YOU ANSWER ME?

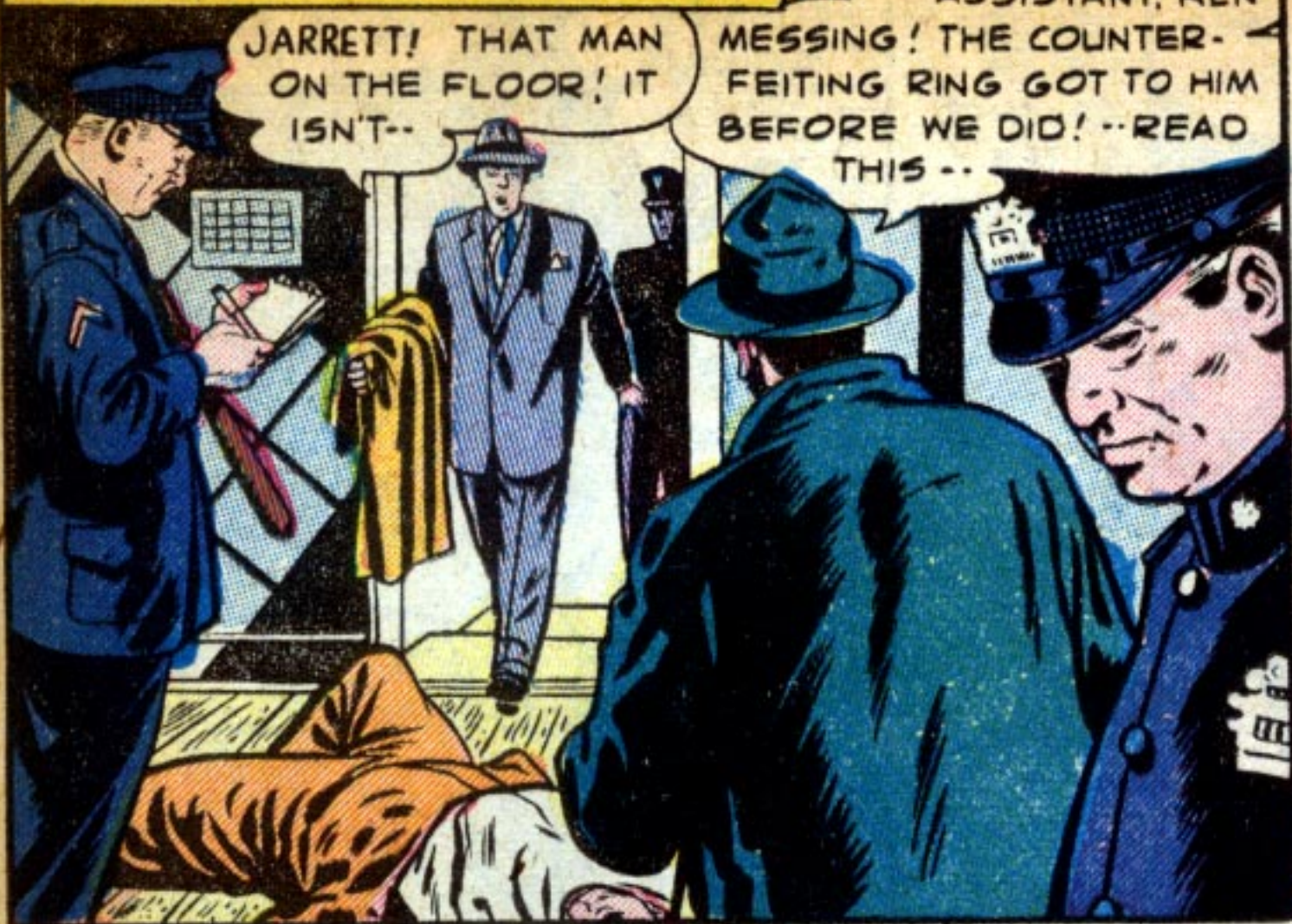
(GASP) Y-YOU'RE NOT
MR. JARRETT!
YOU --

BANG

HERE'S MY CALLING CARD --
THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT
WILL BE INTERESTED
IN MY COMING
PLANS!

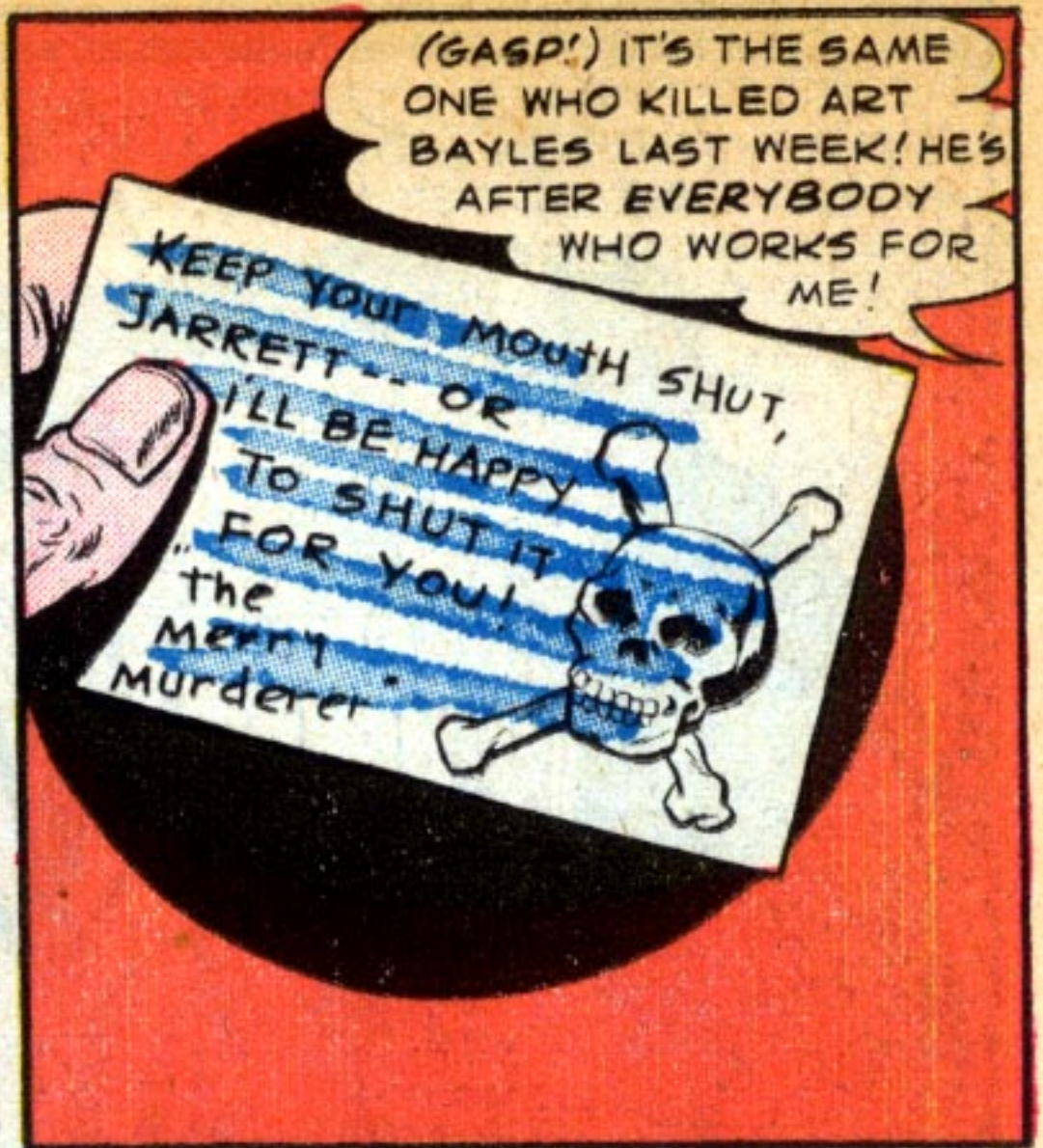


A HALF-HOUR LATER, WHEN T-MAN TOD ELLIS ARRIVED ON THE SCENE--



JARRETT! THAT MAN ON THE FLOOR! IT ISN'T--

YES, ELLIS! IT'S MY ASSISTANT, KEN MESSING! THE COUNTERFEITING RING GOT TO HIM BEFORE WE DID! --READ THIS--



KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT, JARRETT-- OR I'LL BE HAPPY TO SHUT IT FOR YOU! "The Merry Murderer"

AND HE MURDERS 'EM THE SAME WAY, JARRETT! THE MERRY MURDERER ALWAYS AMBUSHES YOUR MEN EN ROUTE TO THEIR MEETINGS WITH US!

YES! HE'S DESTROYING THE UNDER-COVER APPARATUS IT TOOK ME A YEAR TO BUILD UP!

YOU DIDN'T KNOW TILL I CONTACTED YOUR OFFICE A WEEK AGO! I TOOK A THOUSAND RISKS TO CRACK THIS COAST-TO-COAST COUNTERFEITING RING! -- THEY MURDERED MY BROTHER -- AND I WAS OUT TO AVENGE HIM! I SPENT A FORTUNE ON PRIVATE INVESTIGATORS!



NOW THAT WE'RE READY TO SPRING OUR TRAP ON THE GANG, I'M NOT QUITTING!

GOOD! YOU'VE GOT TWO MORE PLANTS INSIDE THE RING, JARRETT! LET THEM MEET US ON FRIDAY! WE'LL WORK OUT THE CRUSHER!



THREE NIGHTS LATER, AT A DOWNTOWN BISTRO--

I DIDN'T KNOW THAT ONE OF JARRETT'S PRIVATE AGENTS WAS A GIRL!

OH, YES! DIANE HELPS PASS THE COUNTERFEIT MONEY FOR THE RING! HMM-- I WONDER WHEN JARRETT WILL SHOW UP? HE'S LATE!



MAN NAMED JARRETT OUTSIDE TO SEE YOU, MR. ELLIS!

SOMETHING MUST BE WORRYING JARRETT IF HE HASN'T COME IN! WAIT HERE! I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!



E-ELLIS, I'M FRIGHTENED!
I SPOTTED TWO OF THE
RING'S HATCHETMEN
OUTSIDE THE BAR! THEY
MUST'VE TRAILED
ME HERE!

THEN YOUR AGENT,
MORROW, AND THE
GIRL ARE IN DANGER,
TOO! COME ON!!

BUT
BEFORE
ELLIS
REACHED
THE
DOORWAY
OF THE
BACK
ROOM...

GET DOWN, DIANE!
SOMETHING
FUNNY'S
GOING
ON!

VERY FUNNY!
LAUGH OFF THESE
SLUGS, STOOLIE!



HERE'S OUR
CALLIN'
CARD!

TWO MINUTES LATER--

IT'S THE MERRY
MURDERER! HE
SAYS YOU'RE
NEXT, JARRETT,
UNLESS YOU
LAY OFF!

NEVER MIND
ME! FOLLOW
THEM! THEY
WENT DOWN
THE ALLEY!



IF YOU TAKE A SHORT
CUT THROUGH THAT
CELLAR YOU'RE
BOUND TO HEAD
THEM OFF! I'LL KEEP
AN EYE ON
DIANE!

ALL RIGHT!
MEANTIME--
CALL THE
REGIONAL
TREASURY
OFFICE!



THROUGH THE CELLAR,
JARRETT SAID!
THEN I COULD
HEAD --

WALKED RIGHT INTO IT,
DIDN'T YOU, SUCKER?
FREEZE!



THE RING HATCHETMEN!
I-I'M DONE FOR IF I
DON'T FIGHT IT OUT!



L-LET'S GET OUTA HERE! HE'S A DEAD SHOT!

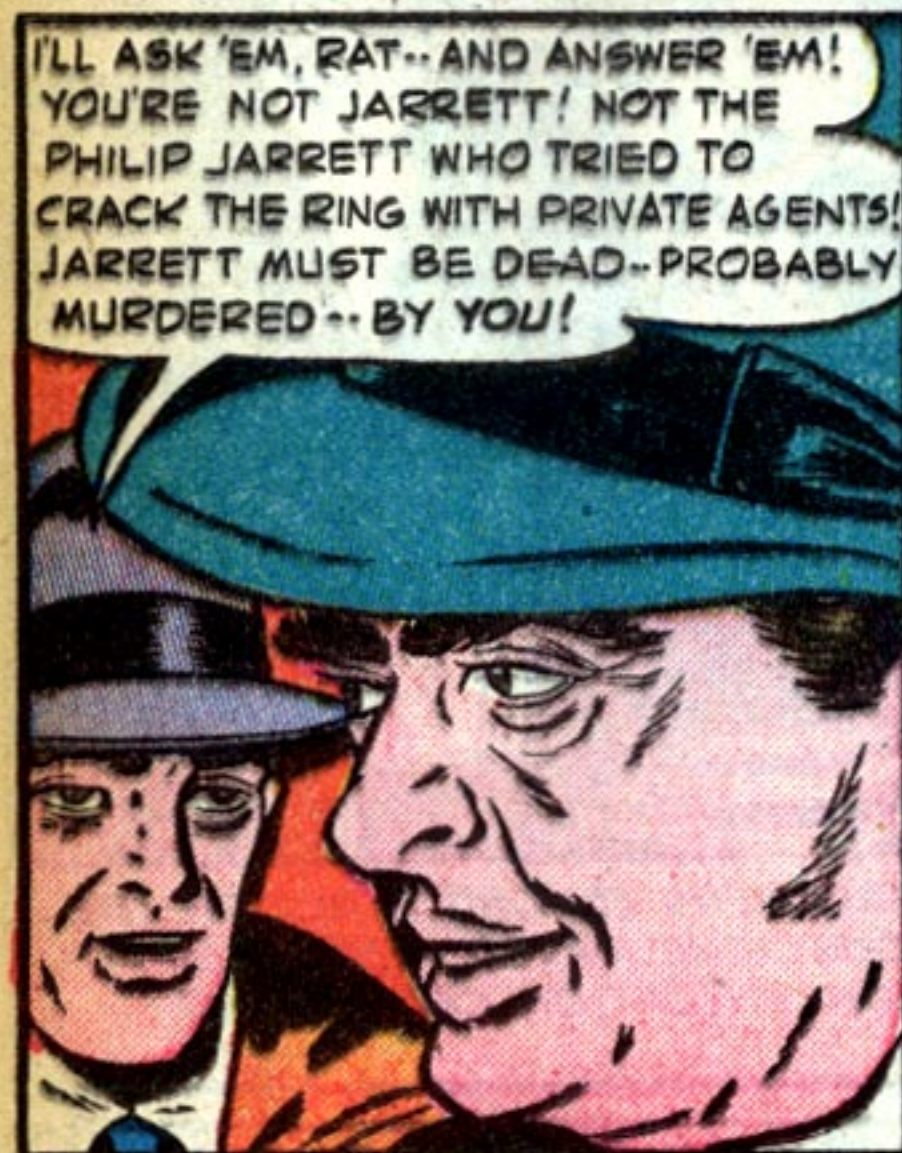
BANG BANG



BUT FIVE MINUTES LATER, WHEN ELLIS RETURNED TO THE BACK ROOM--

DROP YOUR ARTILLERY, T-MAN-- OR THE DAME GETS IT!

CHECK-MATE, ELLIS! WHEN THE BOYS TOLD ME YOU ESCAPED THEIR TRAP, I KNEW YOU'D BE BACK TO ASK QUESTIONS!



I'LL ASK 'EM, RAT-- AND ANSWER 'EM! YOU'RE NOT JARRETT! NOT THE PHILIP JARRETT WHO TRIED TO CRACK THE RING WITH PRIVATE AGENTS! JARRETT MUST BE DEAD-- PROBABLY MURDERED-- BY YOU!



RIGHT! ONE OF JARRETT'S TRUSTED AGENTS TIPPED ME OFF! SO I BUMBED OFF THE AGENT-- THEN JARRETT HIMSELF! THEN-- POSING AS JARRETT, SINCE NO T-MAN EVER SAW THE REAL JARRETT-- YOU LURED THE PRIVATE EYES-- WHO DIDN'T KNOW JARRETT WAS DEAD-- INTO AMBUSHES!



SURE! I COULDN'T AFFORD TO MEET 'EM-- OR LET 'EM TELL YOU T-MEN WHAT THEY'D DUG UP FOR JARRETT! BUT WASN'T IT CUTE OF ME-- TO SEND MYSELF THREATENING LETTERS?

I THINK IT WAS CUTER OF ME-- TO SEND FOR THE POLICE! GET 'EM, BOYS!



(GASP) THE COPS!

OKAY, MERRY MURDERER! NOW LAUGH ON THE OTHER SIDE OF YOUR FACE!



LATER-- THE ROOM WAS TOO DARK FOR ME TO SPOT THE RINGLEADER RIGHT OFF! THANK HEAVEN YOU FIGURED IT OUT ON THE WAY BACK FROM THE CELLAR AND PHONED THE POLICE!

THE GUY WAS AS FAKE AS THE MONEY HE PRINTED, DIANE! NOW HE'S MONEY TO BURN! A GENUINE CINCH FOR THE ELECTRIC CHAIR!

T-MAN

TROUBLE IN BAVARIA



PETE! IS IT REALLY
HITLER?

IT ISN'T MICKEY
MOUSE!

THE 'SEIG HEILS' ROARED BY THE LEGION OF HIS FANATIC STORM-TROOPERS ECHOED THROUGH THE BAVARIAN VILLAGE AS THE LITTLE MAN IN THE SMALL, BLACK MOUSTACHE RAVED AND STAMPED HIS FEET! TO PETE TRASK IT BROUGHT BACK MEMORIES OF CONCENTRATION CAMPS AND GOOSE-STEPPING MURDERERS!

THE REPORTS FROM THE GERMAN BAVARIAN ALPS WERE OMINOUS AND PERSISTENT! THE INFAMOUS PAPER HANGER WAS SHOWING UP UNHERALDED AND UNEXPECTED IN TOWN AFTER TOWN ... RALLYING HIS DIE-HARD FOLLOWERS WITH HIS MAGNETIC SPEECHES IN PREPARATION FOR A DRAMATIC RETURN TO POWER!

PETE .. YOU'VE HEARD THE REPORTS! THEY SOUND SCREWY, BUT REMEMBER--HITLER'S DEATH HAS NEVER BEEN DEFINITELY PROVED!

BUT, CHIEF--IT'S FANTASTIC!

WE'VE GOT TO KNOW WHAT'S BEHIND THESE REPORTS! YOU'RE TO LEAVE IMMEDIATELY AND TAKE TERRY GORDON ALONG AS YOUR ASSISTANT!

AT LEAST NOW IT'S PLEASANTLY FANTASTIC! AND IF I RUN INTO NAPOLEON I'LL GIVE HIM YOUR REGARDS!



IN THE BAVARIAN ALPS ... BIRTHPLACE OF NAZISM!

I HEAR THEY MAKE THE GREATEST CHEESE EVER AROUND HERE!

GOOD! IT MIGHT HELP YOU TRAP A RAT! WHO'S THIS COMING?

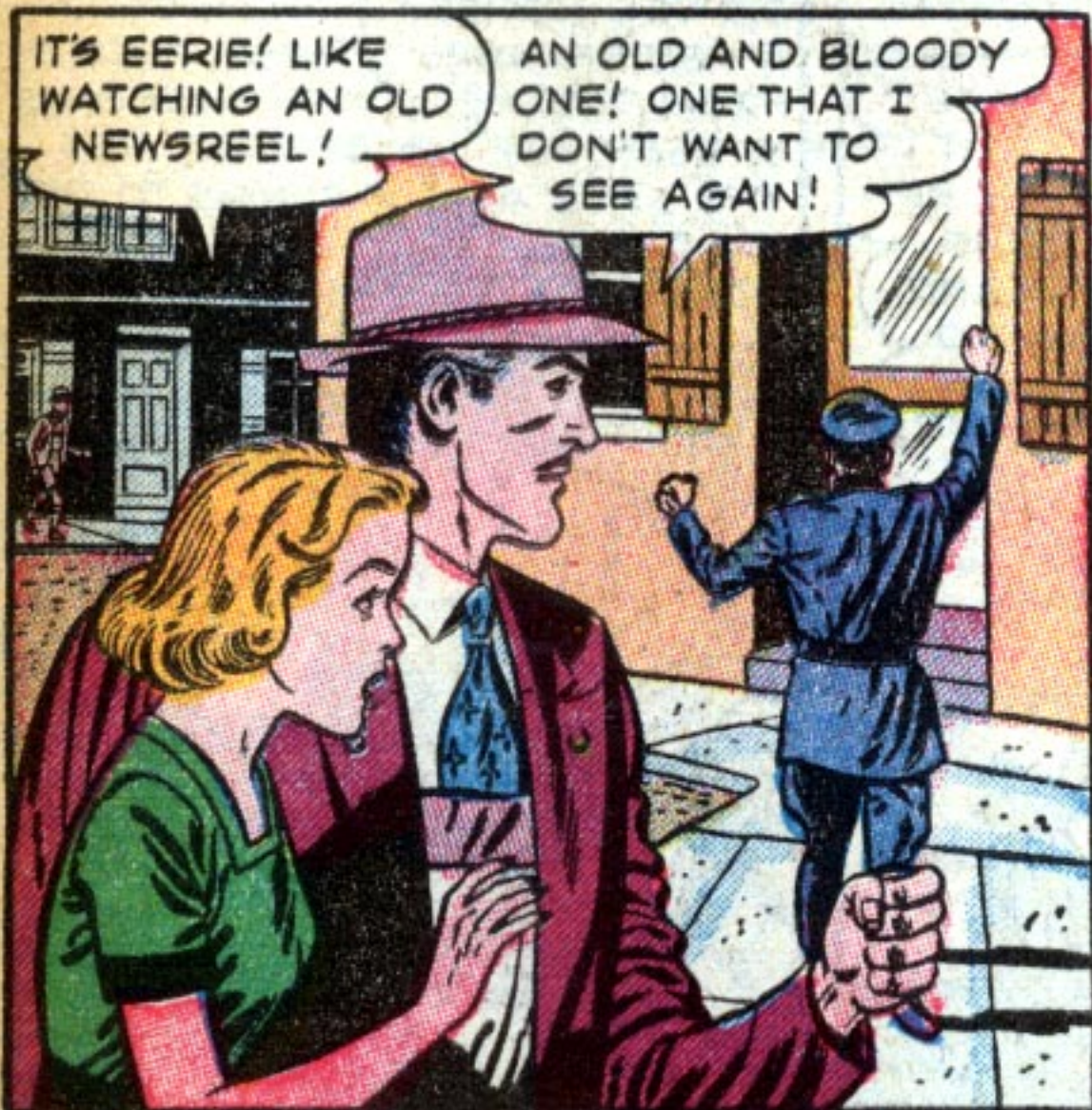


DER FUEHRER REIGNS AGAIN! DER FUEHRER SPEAKS! TOMORROW IN TREHAUSEN! HEIL HITLER!



IT'S EERIE! LIKE WATCHING AN OLD NEWSREEL!

AN OLD AND BLOODY ONE! ONE THAT I DON'T WANT TO SEE AGAIN!



HITLER STARTED OUT IN A PLACE LIKE THIS! WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT ALL?

I DON'T KNOW! BUT TOMORROW I'M GOING TO BE IN TREHAUSEN! IF HITLER IS REALLY ALIVE I WANT TO SEE HIM WITH MY OWN EYES!



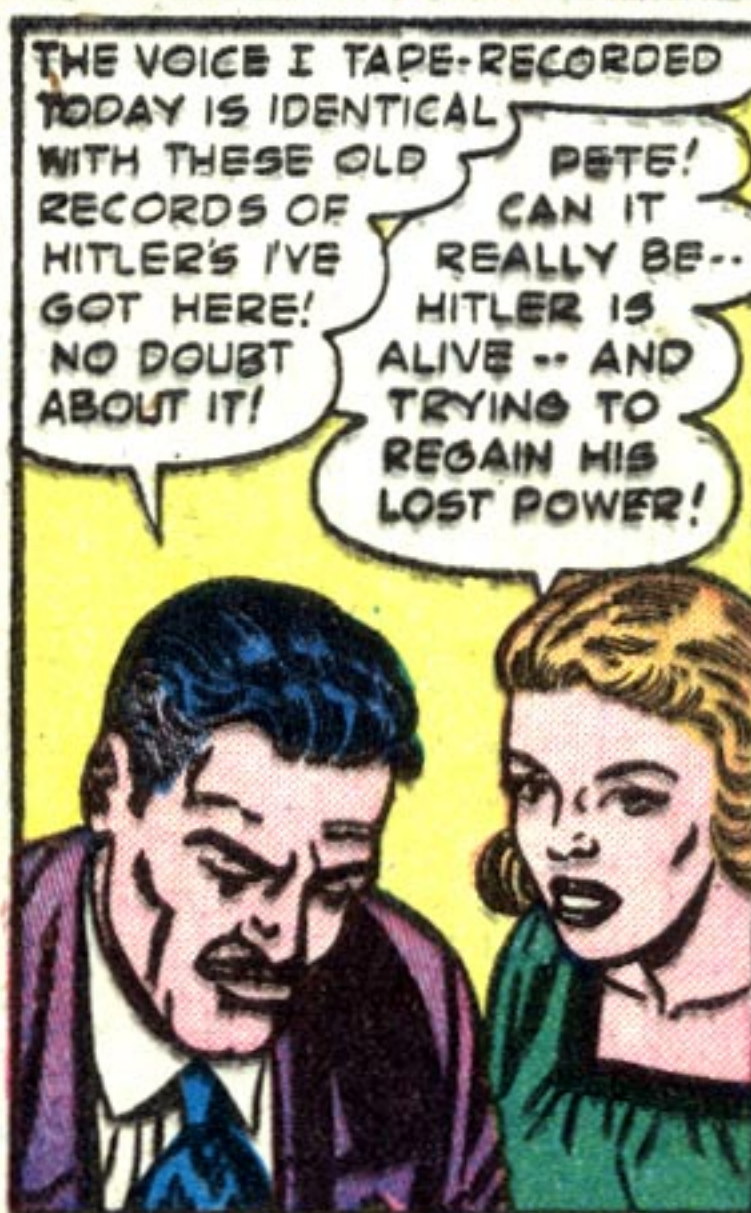
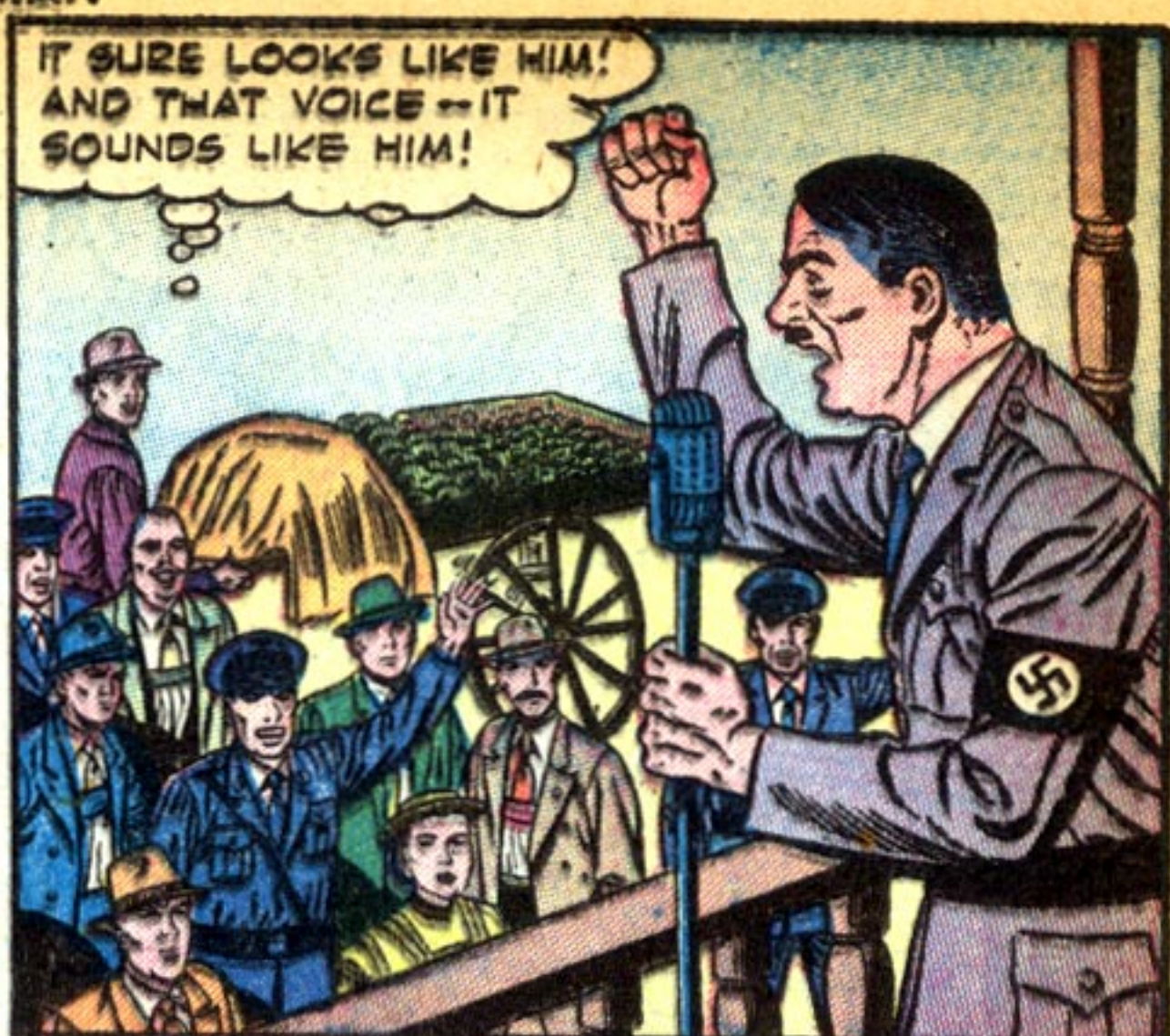
ANYTHING HE SAYS... WHOEVER HE IS... WILL BE HELD AGAINST HIM!



THE NEXT DAY AT TREHAUSEN! AMONG THOSE PRESENT IS AN INCONSPICUOUS FRUIT PEDDLER - WITH A CONCEALED TAPE-RECORDER IN HIS CART!

LOOKS LIKE THE REAL THING ALL RIGHT! AT LEAST IF I DON'T LIKE IT I CAN THROW VEGETABLES!





TRASK AND
GORDON
GO FROM
ONE
BAVARIAN
VILLAGE
TO ANOTHER
-- AND
FINALLY
LEARN
WHERE
THE NEXT
RALLY
WILL BE
HELD! THEN,
ON THE
DAY OF
THE
MASS
MEETING--





WE'LL DISCUSS THE SPEECH AFTER YOUR NAP!



C'MON! THEIR HEADQUARTERS SHOULD BE A INTERESTING PLACE!

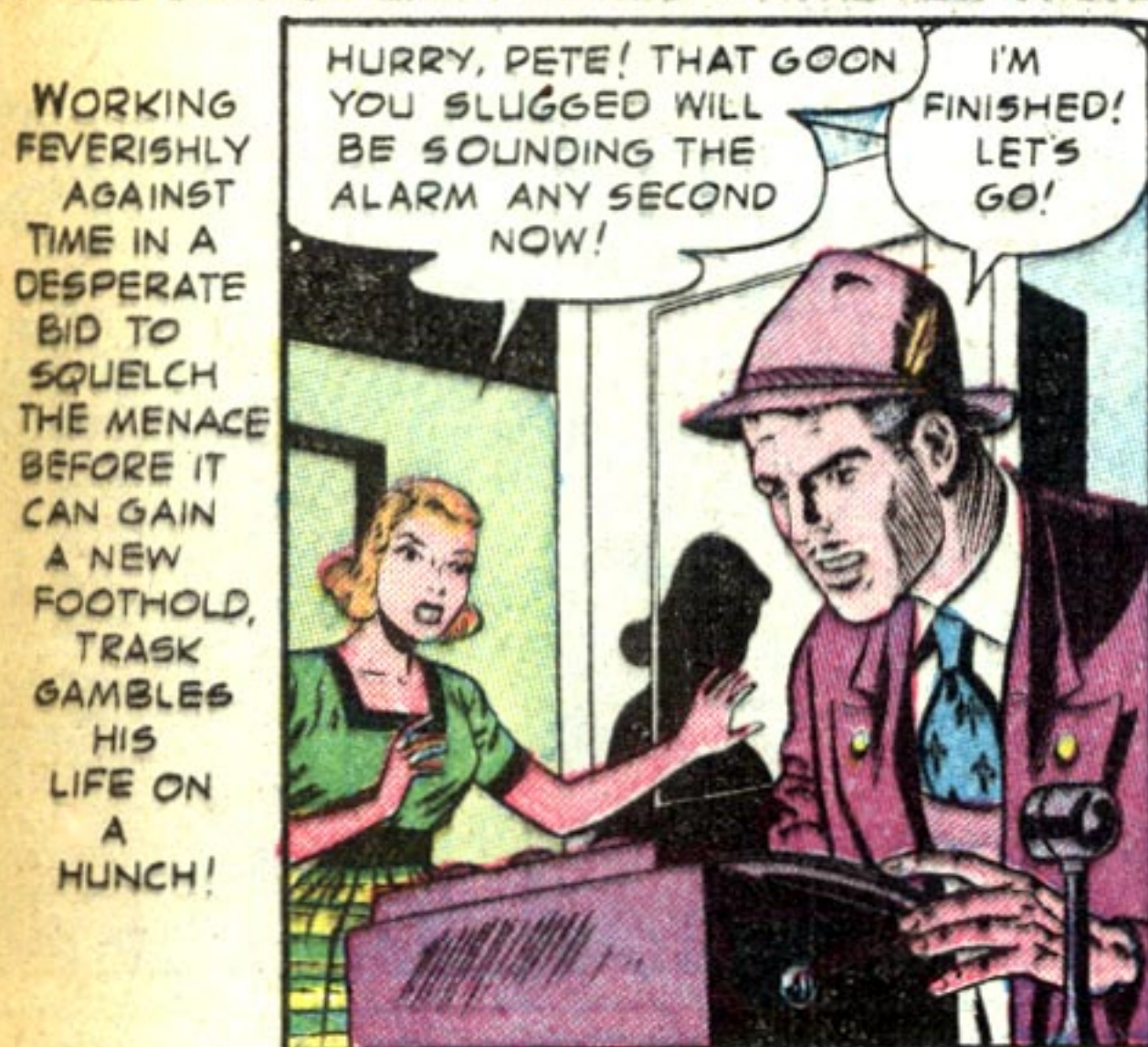
FOR THE UNINVITED!



TRASK AND TERRY HIT THE NERVE CENTER OF THE NAZI RESURGENCE!

GRUESOME ISN'T IT?

THE MOTHER LODE, ALL RIGHT! AND THERE'S A TAPE RECORDER! WE HAVEN'T TIME TO HEAR IT BUT--IF IT'S WHAT I THINK IT IS--!



WORKING FEVERISHLY AGAINST TIME IN A DESPERATE BID TO SQUELCH THE MENACE BEFORE IT CAN GAIN A NEW FOOTHOLD, TRASK GAMBLE HIS LIFE ON A HUNCH!

HURRY, PETE! THAT GOON YOU SLUGGED WILL BE SOUNDING THE ALARM ANY SECOND NOW!

I'M FINISHED! LET'S GO!



THERE ARE DER SNOOPERS!

LET'S GO, HONEY! WE'VE WORN OUT OUR WELCOME!



THIS IS AN UNEXPECTED PLEASURE!

UGH!



IF YOU FELLOWS ARE SUPERMEN, I'M BABY ROSEMARIE!

AGHH--!



BUT HOW WILL THEY FIND OUT, HERR TRASK? YOU AND YOUR PRETTY FRIEND WILL NOT LIVE TO TELL THEM!

WHY DON'T YOU FELLOWS PIPE DOWN AND LISTEN TO YOUR FRIEND'S SPEECH?

DER THIRD REICH SHALL REPAY ITS ENEMIES FOR THE INDIGNITIES--

BUT A RUDE SHOCK AWAITS THE NAZIS AS ANOTHER VOICE IS HEARD OVER THE LOUDSPEAKER!

THIS IS PETE TRASK OF THE U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT! THE MAN YOU ARE LOOKING AT IS NOT HITLER!

WHA--! HOW--? YOU DID THIS!

WITH MY OWN LITTLE VOICE!

I THOUGHT I'D DO A LITTLE AD-LIBbing ON YOUR RECORDING, GENERAL! JUST TO BRING IT UP TO DATE!

TURN OFF DER MACHINE!

HITLER IS DEAD! YOU WERE LISTENING TO A RECORDING OF HIS VOICE!

OH, NO YOU DON'T! I WANT THE PEOPLE TO HEAR EVERYTHING! AND I LOVE TO HEAR MY OWN VOICE!

THE MEN BEHIND THIS PLOT ARE TRAITORS TO THE NEW GERMANY!

STOP THE MACHINE OR WE ARE RUINED!

YOU'RE RUINED ANYWAY, SQUAREHEAD!

DON'T TOUCH THAT MACHINE! I LOVE PETE'S VOICE, TOO!

MEANWHILE, IN THE SQUARE BELOW, THE ENRAGED TOWN-PEOPLE VENT THEIR FURY ON THE BEFUDDLED STORM-TROOPERS!

IT IS NOT HITLER! HE IS REALLY DEAD!

THE NAZIS HAVE TRIED TO TRAP US AGAIN!

I DO NOT UNDER-stand!

THIS FOR YOUR THIRD REICH-- AND YOUR PUPPET HITLER!

UGH!



DON'T! WE DID NOT KNOW, EITHER! THEY TOLD US IT WAS HITLER!

THEN DIS BEATING IS FOR BEING SUCH A FOOL!

AND FOR MAKING FOOLS OF US!



VE VILL CATCH DER NAZIS!

THEY HAVE FOOLED US FOR DER LAST TIME!



AS THE ENRAGED MOB, FURIOUS AT BEING DUPED, STORMS THE BUILDING, PETE TRASK FIGHTS A DESPERATE BATTLE AGAINST SUPERIOR FORCES!

DEY KNOW I AM NOT DER FUEHRER! DEY ARE COMING FOR US!

SHUCKS! JUST WHEN I WAS BEGINNING TO HAVE FUN!

UGHH!



THE GERMAN MARINES HAVE LANDED!

PETE... WITH ALL THESE UNIFORMS, I DONT KNOW WHO TO HIT!

NAZI SWINE! YOU HAVE FOOLED US VUNCE TOO OFTEN!



THAT DOES IT! WE'LL GET THESE FUNKS TO THE AUTHORITIES... INCLUDING THIS WOULD-BE HITLER HERE!

UNDER THE TABLE THERE -- HE'S A PRETTY GOOD IMITATION AT THAT!



LATER THAT EVENING...

BUT THOSE STORM-TROOPERS, PETE, WRENT THEY DANGEROUS BY THEMSELVES?

NO--THEY NEEDED A LEADER TO STIR 'EM UP! NOW THAT THEYVE FOUND THEIR HITLER TO BE AN UNEMPLOYED HAM ACTOR, THEY'LL RELAX AGAIN! WHAT SAY WE HEAD BACK TO THE STATES?



BUT, MR. TRASK! YOU PROMISED THE CHIEF TO LOOK UP NAPOLEON!

NOT TONIGHT JOSEPHINE!



THE KILLER



WHO WASN'T THERE

A MAN with a goatee, carrying a cane and wearing gaudy clothes, swaggered up to the steward's window to check in for his sailing on the S.S. Standish which was soon to leave France for the United States.

"Professor Gaylord Swift," he said haughtily.

"Yes, sir," answered the steward, eyeing the strange looking man. "Stateroom 45." Everyone stared at the eccentric appearing character. That was exactly what he wanted. He smiled when he was alone in the privacy of his costly quarters and started to remove his disguise.

"This," he said to himself, "will be the perfect crime."

When the whiskers had been removed and the long hair and when the flashy clothes had been changed for drab, conservative ones, a small and meek little man emerged from the stateroom and lost himself among the passengers. He stood in line to check with the steward on his second class passage and no one gave him a second look. That, too, was exactly the way he wanted it. He gave his name as Harold Mason.

That was his real name. Professor Gaylord Swift was an alias. But the two men were the same and the stateroom and second class cabin had been reserved by the same man. Only who would suspect it? And who would ever think of blaming Harold Mason for a crime that Professor Swift would commit in front of witnesses? It seemed like a perfect plan.

The crime to be committed had to do with diamonds, a half million dollars worth. Ben Nesbit, a renowned diamond dealer, had bought them in Europe and was on that ship. Harold Mason was going to get them, only Professor Swift would be to blame. But Professor Swift would simply disappear.

It would seem complicated and puzzling but to the calculating mind of Mason, it was actually very simple.

Back in the stateroom, he again became Professor Swift. He made a point of strutting around the deck, talking loudly, introducing himself, being sure that he was seen and heard by everyone. He forced his acquaintance upon Ben Nesbit and inquired boldly about the diamond business and about the dealer's purchases. Occasionally, he'd make a point of being tired and needing a nap at which time a Do Not Disturb sign would be hung on his stateroom door and the unassuming Mr. Mason would walk

silently among the second class passengers paying attention to no one and receiving none.

The crime was committed in Nesbit's stateroom. Professor Gaylord Swift was seen to enter. And when Nesbit was found stabbed and dying, he told how Swift had stolen the diamonds and absolutely identified him as the guilty man. But the Professor had disappeared, vanished into thin air, and a complete search of the ship did nothing to solve the mystery. The killer simply was not there, yet he had to be. It didn't make sense that anyone would kill and rob and then take a leap overboard, carrying his precious loot with him to the bottom of the sea.

All the passengers were questioned, including Harold Mason. "My," he said, shaking his bald head. "That's a terrible thing, isn't it? A murder like that right here on this boat just makes me shudder."

He walked into the small cabin that he had not previously occupied, took a bundle of clothes in which was also rolled up a wig and false whiskers, and tossed the whole thing through the porthole. "That's it," he thought. "That's the end of Professor Swift. He goes into the sea."

It was night. Mason didn't realize that his bundle landed on a promenade deck instead of in the ocean. He was so smug, so sure of himself, that he stopped to think of nothing except the precious stones that were hidden securely away in a secret compartment of his suitcase.

The clothes gave the clue that Professor Swift had never existed. A search through his stateroom substantiated it, since there was no luggage. But that raised the next big question. Who among the many passengers aboard was the killer? No one even slightly resembled him. Harold Mason felt he did least of all.

But there is one thing that cannot fail. Fingerprints. Everyone on ship had to submit to the test and, although Mason thought he was safe because, as Professor Swift he had worn gloves, there were prints in the stateroom that were the same as those of Harold Mason.

"Okay," muttered Mason when he knew there was no way out. "The diamonds are in my suitcase. But even with the evidence, you won't arrest me."

Then, breaking away, he made a dash for the rail and jumped overboard. No one could arrest a killer who wasn't there.

T-MAN

COUNTERFEIT MONEY IS LIKE A SHINY, NEW CONVERTIBLE WITHOUT A MOTOR UNDER ITS GLEAMING HOOD! IT'S GOOD TO LOOK AT AND VERY EASY TO PASS! AND WHEN PASSED SUCCESSFULLY, THE PHONY MONEY CAN CAUSE A CRISIS THAT'S VERY VERY GENUINE! IN THIS CASE IT PROVOKED A...

BORDER INCIDENT

HOPE I'M NOT TOO ROUGH ON YOUR EQUIPMENT, MEN! YOU MIGHT HAVE TO RAISE YOUR PRICES TO MAKE UP FOR IT!

GET HIM, TONY!



HEADQUARTERS...

HERE, PETE! THIS IS THE PROBLEM WE'RE UP AGAINST THIS TIME!

ER--SURE, CHIEF! HMM! AS NEAR PERFECT AS THEY CAN BE!



NOT ONLY THAT... IT'S FLOODING THE COUNTRY THROUGH TEXAS! TAKE THE NEXT PLANE OUT THERE AND FIND WHO'S BEHIND IT!

OKAY--BUT AREN'T YOU GONNA TELL ME NOT TO TAKE ANY WOODEN NICKELS?



LANDING IN EL PASO NOT MANY HOURS LATER, TRASK IS BRIEFED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES! HE IS DIRECTED TO A SMALL BORDER TOWN ABOUT TWENTY MILES AWAY, TO WHICH MOST OF THE BOGUS MONEY HAS BEEN TRACED!



WHERE COULD YOU HIDE COUNTERFEITING EQUIPMENT IN THIS TOWN? BUT NO ONE'S SAID THEY MAKE THE BILLS HERE! WELL--SINCE I'VE GOT TO START SOMEWHERE, I'LL TRY THAT CAFE DOWN THE STREET!



YOU LIKE TO BUY REAL MEXICAN SERAPE, SEÑOR? TWO DOLLARS!

PROBABLY MADE IN AKRON, OHIO! YOU GOT CHANGE FOR TEN?



BUENO, SEÑOR! EIGHT DOLLARS CHANGE!

THE CHIEF WILL LOVE *THIS*! A BOGUS FIVE!



THIS BILL IS COUNTERFEIT--PHONY...NO GOOD! WHERE'D YOU GET IT?

I DO NOTHING WRONG, SEÑOR! I AM AMERICAN CITIZEN! HONEST... HARD WORK... SIX CHILDREN! PLEASE... SEÑOR!



I'M NOT GOING TO DO ANYTHING TO YOU! ALL I WANT TO KNOW IS WHERE YOU GOT THE BILL! WHO GAVE IT TO YOU?

I SHOW YOU, SEÑOR! I TAKE YOU! WAS GIRL IN BARBER SHOP!

QUICKLY FOLLOWING THE RELIEVED BUT STILL TREMBLING PEDDLER, THEY COVER THE TWO SHORT BLOCKS TO THE BARBER SHOP IN MOMENTS!



TREASURY DEPARTMENT, MISS! THIS MAN SAYS HE GOT THIS FIVE FROM YOU! CAN YOU TELL ME WHERE YOU GOT IT?

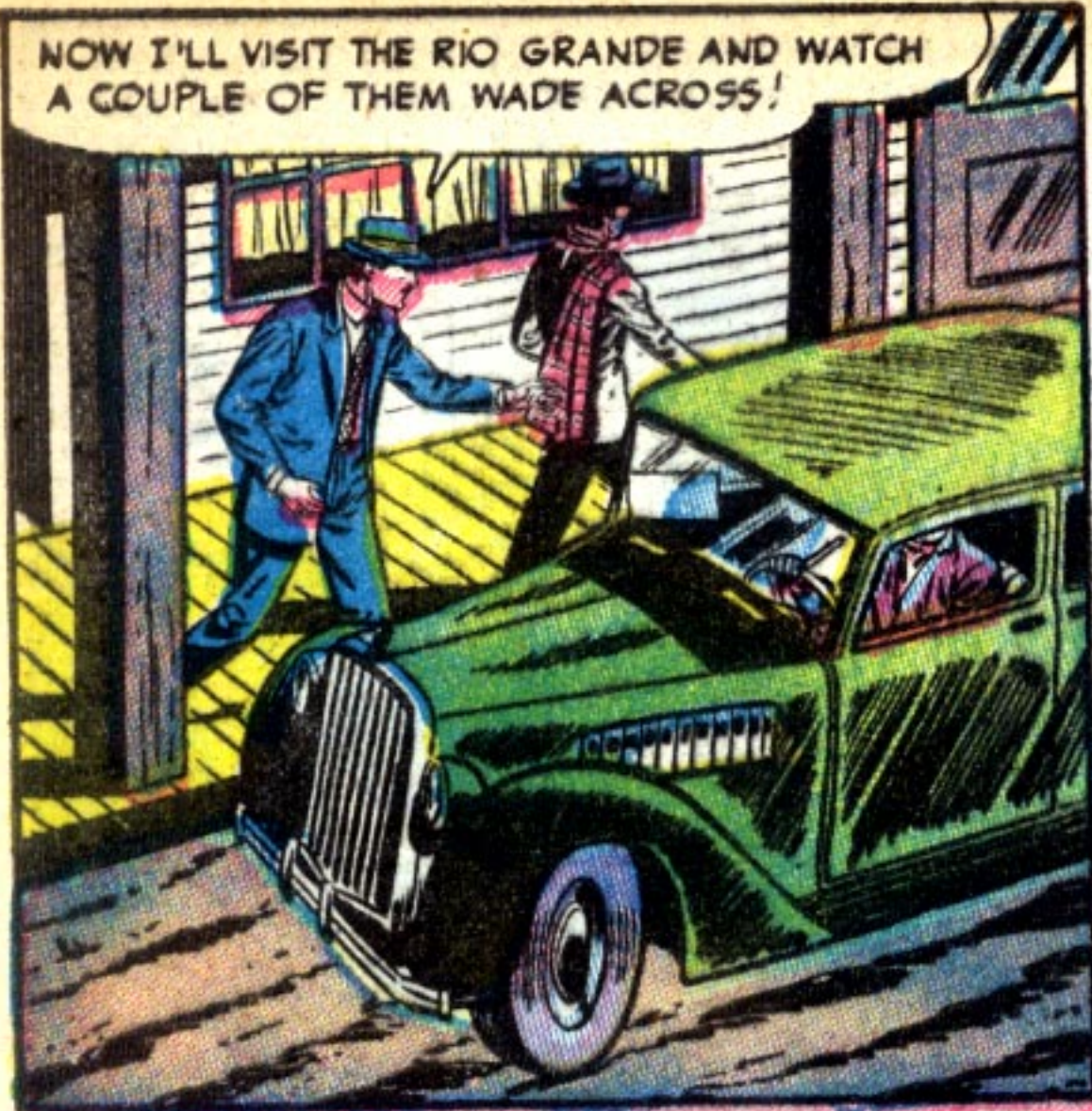
SURE CAN! A MEXICAN CAME IN FOR A HAIRCUT THIS MORNIN' AND GAVE ME THE BILL! IT WAS A LITTLE DAMP AND I PUT IT ON TOP OF THE REGISTER!



I REMEMBER THINKIN' MAYBE HE WAS A "WETBACK"! LOT OF 'EM CROSS THE RIO GRANDE THIS TIME OF THE YEAR WHEN THE RIVER'S LOW AND THERE'S A LOT OF WORK TO BE HAD PICKIN' CROPS!

THANKS, MISS! YOU'VE GIVEN ME AN IDEA!

NOW I'LL VISIT THE RIO GRANDE AND WATCH A COUPLE OF THEM WADE ACROSS!



T-MAN

LATE THAT EVENING ON THE TEXAS SIDE OF THE RIO GRANDE, THE NATURAL BORDER BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO, TRASK EASILY SUBDUES A FRIGHTENED MEXICAN LABORER BENT UPON ENTERING TEXAS WITHOUT AN ENTRANCE VISA!

PLEASE... SEÑOR! I DO NOT KNOW MONEY IS NOT GOOD! I GET IT IN MEXICO!



IN MEXICO THEY TELL US TO EXCHANGE OUR MEXICAN MONEY FOR AMERICAN MONEY BEFORE COMING, SEÑOR! SO WE WILL NOT LOOK SUSPICIOUS!

OKAY, BUSTER-- BACK ON YOUR SIDE OF THE RIVER! AND DON'T LET ME CATCH UP WITH YOU AGAIN!



VERY CLEVER! THEY MINT THIS PHONY AMERICAN STUFF IN MEXICO AND EXCHANGE IT FOR GOOD MEXICAN CASH ON THEIR SIDE OF THE BORDER! THEN THESE "WETBACKS" BRING IT ACROSS THINKING IT'S GOOD! BUT I'VE GOT AN IDEA!



DISGUISED AS A MEXICAN LABORER, TRASK CROSSES THE BORDER AND MINGLES IN THE MARKET-PLACE OF A RIVER SIDE TOWN... HIS MOUTH SHUT... HIS EARS OPEN!

YOU ARE GOING TONIGHT, CARLOS?

SI-- BUT FIRST I MUST CHANGE MY MONEY!



AMIGO-- YOU SAY MAYBE I CAN EXCHANGE MY PESOS FOR AMERICAN MONEY TO USE IN TEXAS?

SI-- YOU HAVE NOT HEARD? I TELL YOU WHERE TO GO TO FIND "BIG MIKE"!



TRASK
FOLLOWS
THE
INSTRUCTIONS
OF THE
UNSUSPECT-
ING
CARLOS
AND FINDS
HIMSELF
IN A
SMALL
ADOBE
HUT! HIS
INFORMATION
PROVES
ACCURATE!



GRACIAS, SEÑOR!

THIS IS THE COUNTERFEIT
COUNTER, ALL RIGHT! AND
"BIG MIKE" IS THE HEAD
COUNTERMAN!

THE PLEASURE IS
ALL MINE, SEÑOR!
ENJOY YOURSELF
IN TEXAS, EH?

BUT, AMIGO--THIS MONEY LOOK LIKE
PHONY AS AMERICANS SAY! YOU
MAYBE COME TO POLICE WITH ME!
WE ASK THEM!

WHAT THE--
TONY...
CHARLIE...
TEX!



GET THIS GUY! HE'S WISE
TO THE MONEY!

SORRY, AMIGO-- BUT
PEDRO TRASK NO LIKE
TO BE HOOD-WINKED!



UGH!

LET HIM LIE THERE! DON'T WASTE BULLETS!
HE'S JUST ANOTHER "WETBACK"!

THE PASSAGE
OF THREE DAYS
BRINGS PETE
TRASK NO
CLOSER TO A
SOLUTION!
IN THE HOPE OF
DEVELOPING
ANOTHER LEAD
OR DISCOVERING
THE WHERE-
ABOUTS OF
"BIG MIKE",
TRASK'S ONLY
LINK TO THE
COUNTERFEIT
RING, TRASK
LINGERS AT
THE BAR IN
"LOLITA'S",
A NIGHT CLUB
IN THE BORDER
TOWN!



THIS LOOKS LIKE THE SORT OF DIVE "BIG MIKE"
WOULD PATRONIZE! WELL... LOLITA SEEMS TO BE
SINGING JUST FOR ME! HMM... I'LL BET SHE
MIGHT BE ABLE TO TELL ME A LOT ABOUT A
LOT OF THINGS!

HELLO, HANDSOME!
YOU LIKE LOLITA'S
SINGING, I SEE!
YOU ARE NEW
AROUND HERE,
YES?

AS FAR AS SHE'S
CONCERNED I'M JUST
A TOURIST! WE'LL KEEP
IT THAT WAY!

YES... I HOPE YOU'LL
SHOW ME AROUND! SORT
OF A WELCOMING
COMMITTEE!





YOU ARE VERY HANDSOME FELLOW, SEÑOR! I TAKE THE JOB! YOU ARE BIG BUSINESS MAN MAYBE?

ER-- YES, OF COURSE! AND YOU MUST BE A PRETTY BIG BUSINESS WOMAN YOURSELF... JUDGING FROM THIS PLACE!



I DO ALL RIGHT, HANDSOME! AND I AM TOSSING A PARTY AT MY PLACE TONIGHT! WHY NOT COME AND GET ACQUAINTED!

GREAT, BEAUTIFUL! I'LL BE THERE AS YOUR SPECIAL GUEST!

SHE CAN'T POSSIBLY KNOW WHO I AM! IF SHE WANTS TO WHISPER ANYTHING VALUABLE IN MY EAR I'M NOT GONNA COMPLAIN!



LATER THAT NIGHT AT LOLITA'S APARTMENT...

WELL--IF IT ISN'T MY SPARRING PARTNER! WONDER WHAT HE'S DOING HERE! IF HE'S A FRIEND OF LOLITA'S I MIGHT HAVE STUMBLER INTO A HORNET'S NEST!



HAVING FUN, HANDSOME?

ER... FINE! SOME OF YOUR GUESTS ARE VERY INTERESTING! THINK I'LL CHAT WITH ONE OF THEM! WAIT HERE, BEAUTIFUL!



TRASK-- MINUS HIS DISGUISE OF TWO DAYS BEFORE-- CONFRONTS THE UNSUSPECTING HOODLUM WITH HIS OWN MERCHANDISE!

IT'S GOOD TO SEE ANOTHER AMERICAN! LISTEN-- I'VE RUN OUT OF MEXICAN MONEY! DO YOU HAVE ANY YOU COULD EXCHANGE FOR SOME GOOD OLD AMERICAN MAZUMA?

EXCHANGE? ARE YOU KIDDING? THOSE BILLS ARE COUNTERFEIT!



YOU OUGHT TO KNOW! YOU GAVE 'EM TO ME!

A TRAP, EH?

LOOK OUT, HANDSOME! HE'S GOT A KNIFE!



AT A SIGNAL FROM LOLITA, TWO "GUESTS" EFFICIENTLY DISCOURAGE THE MURDEROUS MIKE...

STOP HIM!

UGH---!!

THIS MUCH HELP I DIDN'T COUNT ON!



QUESTIONS? WHAT A PITY! MY FRIENDS WERE PERHAPS TOO VEHEMENT IN COMING TO YOUR DEFENSE!



THE ONE WITH A KNIFE I DO NOT KNOW! BUT I WILL KEEP HIM HERE FOR YOU, HANDSOME! TOMORROW YOU WILL BE ABLE TO ASK YOUR QUESTIONS!



...WONDER WHAT HE WAS DOING AT LOLITA'S PARTY... AND WHY SHE HAD HIM SILENCED SO VERY EFFICIENTLY... THE BOYS SURE JUMPED WHEN SHE CALLED THE PLAY...



NEXT MORNING...

VERY INTERESTING! THINK I'LL VISIT THE MORGUE AND SCARE UP A FEW LAUGHS!



THAT'S HIM ALL RIGHT! WITH THREE BULLETS IN HIS HEAD! SOMEONE DIDN'T WANT HIM TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS!

ER...THAT'LL BE ALL!



TRASK'S NEXT STOP IS *LOLITA'S*!

THAT GUY WITH THE KNIFE GOT AWAY LAST NIGHT, EH? THEY FOUND HIM STAGGERING AROUND ACROSS THE BORDER!

STAGGERING? THEY TOLD ME THEY SHOT HIM!



WHO DID? THE PAPER DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT HIS BEING SHOT!

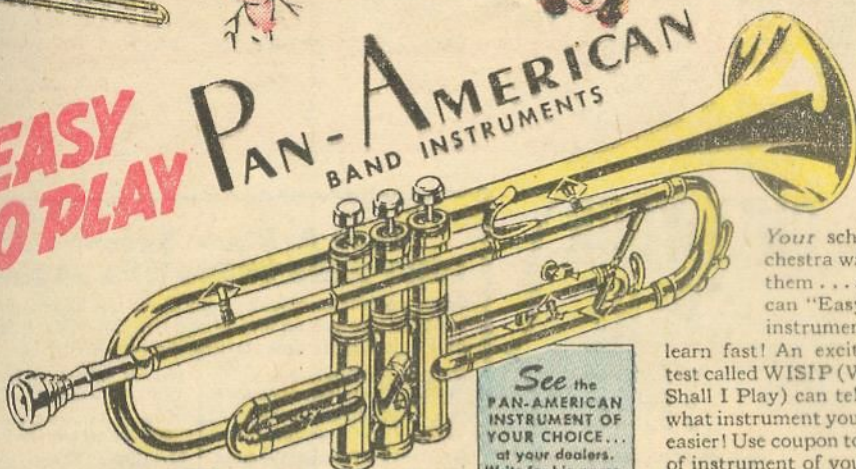
NO...? NEWS SPREADS FAST ALONG THE BORDER, HANDSOME! BUT LET'S FORGET EVERYTHING BUT US! KISS ME!



**EASY
TO PLAY**

PAN-AMERICAN BAND INSTRUMENTS

**TO HELP
YOU GET
IN YOUR
SCHOOL
BAND!**



See the
PAN-AMERICAN
INSTRUMENT OF
YOUR CHOICE...
at your dealers.
Write for his name.

Your school band or orchestra wants you to join them... and Pan-American "Easy to Play" band instruments can help you learn fast! An exciting "Musiquiz" test called WISIP (What Instrument Shall I Play) can tell you, for sure, what instrument you can learn faster, easier! Use coupon to get free picture of instrument of your choice... also your copy of WISIP "Musiquiz."

**SEND FOR Free
INSTRUMENT PICTURE!**

(They're listed below)

CLARINET FLUTE
TROMBONE VIOLIN
CELLO DRUM
CORNET and TRUMPET

Also get your copy of
WISIP "Musiquiz"
for only 5 cents

PAN-AMERICAN BAND INSTRUMENTS
Department 255 • ELKHART, INDIANA

- ☐ Send FREE picture of _____ (Instrument)
☐ Send WISIP "Musiquiz." I enclose five cents.
☐ Send name of my Pan-American dealer.

NAME _____
STREET _____
CITY _____ CO. _____ STATE _____

BOYS, GIRLS, MEN, WOMEN! The World Is On FIRE Serve The LORD and You Can Have These Prizes!

We will send you the wonderful prizes pictured on this page... or dozens of others, such as rifles, jewelry, baseballs, silverware, house appliances, watches... all WITHOUT ONE PENNY OF COST. Come, we, girls, were are the greatest they have ever been. Our leaders say a new awakening of Christianity is needed to save us. You can do your share by spreading the gospel into every home in your community. Merely show friends and neighbors inspiring, beautiful Religious Wall Mottos plaques. Many buy 24 or more to hang in every room. An amazing value! only 25¢ each... sell at night. Secure big, cash commissions or exciting prizes for selling just ONE SET of 24 Mottos. Big Prize catalog sent FREE! Serve the LORD and soon prizes you want.



Aluminum Pressure Cooker



Joe DeMaggio Baseball Glove



Powerful Table Radio



Arthur Godfrey Ukulele



Three Strand Necklace

Red Ryder Carbine



Boy's Pocket Watch



Key Ring Wrist Watch



No. 10000 Camera

HERE'S HOW YOU GET YOUR PRIZES

Rush your name and address on coupon and we ship AT ONCE PREPAID your first set of 24 big size, 5x11, richly decorated Mottos ON TRUST. When you have sold the 24 Mottos, send the \$4.00 you have collected and you can secure your choice of many wonderful prizes. If you prefer to EARN MONEY, send \$6.00 and keep \$2.40. Hurry - send today for 24 Mottos ON TRUST and big PRIZE CATALOG FREE.



Ray Rogers Receptor



Gabby Hayes Fishing Kit



Baby Doll

The FUN man, Dept. Y-136, **FREE BIG PRIZE CATALOG**
4545 N. Clark St., Chicago 40, Ill.

Please rush to me on credit 24 Religious Wall Mottos, to sell at 35¢ each. Also include big Prize Catalog FREE. I will remit amount asked within 30 days, select a prize or keep cash commission, as explained under description of prize in big Prize Catalog. PRINT BELOW.

NAME _____ AGE _____
STREET or RFD _____
TOWN _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

Save 1 cent filling in, pasting and mailing this coupon on a 2c Post Card today.

SEND NO MONEY... We Trust You

MEN! WOMEN! take orders for famous NYLONS GUARANTEED 9 mos.

ONLY YOUR
SPARE
TIME
NEEDED

NO HOUSE-TO-HOUSE
CANVASSING REQUIRED

Our unusual plan is a sure-fire money maker! Sensational Guarantee is creating a tremendous demand for Wil-knit Nylons! Mrs. Nellie Gail of Iowa started out with me and made \$48.89 the very first week in just her spare hours. Mrs. Agnes McCall, of South Carolina, did even better. Her spare time in her very first week brought her earnings of \$95.56. Mrs. Walter Simmons of New York turned her spare time into earnings of \$92.82 her first week out. THESE EXCEPTIONAL EARNINGS FOR JUST SPARE TIME and in the very first week give you an idea of the possibilities!

GUARANTEED AGAINST Runs, Wear and Even Snags!

Why is it so easy for Wil-knit Salespeople to get orders? I'll tell you — It's because we stand back of Wil-knit Nylons with the most amazing guarantee you have ever heard of. Your customers can wear out their hose. They can develop runs. They can even snag them. No matter what happens to make Wil-knit Nylons unwearable... within 9 months, depending on quantity... we replace them free of charge under terms of our guarantee. No wonder women are anxious to buy Wil-knit! And no wonder it is easy to quickly build up a fine and STEADY year around income. Earnings start immediately. Look at these exceptional figures—Lillian A. Bronson of Georgia made \$80.60 first week spare time. Ethel Cameron of Michigan, \$64.14. Sabine Fisher, New York, reports earnings of \$70.10 under our unusual plan just for spare time in her first week. Mrs. Edward Leo of Minn., in writing to thank us for the new Plymouth she received, also reports: "I actually earned \$12.00 in twenty minutes by the clock. I actually couldn't believe I earned that much until I re-checked my figures."

SEND NO MONEY! JUST NAME AND HOSE SIZE...

SIMPLY MAIL COUPON. When you send for Selling Outfit, I also send your choice of Nylons or Socks for your personal use. Just rush your name for the facts about the most sensational line of hosiery for men, women and children ever offered. Your friends and neighbors will admire you and this unusual selection of most beautiful hosiery! Just mail coupon or postal card now, and learn at once how you, too, can earn big money in FULL or SPARE TIME and qualify for an EXTRA BONUS and a New Car over and above your cash earnings.

L. Lowell Wilkin

WIL-KNIT HOSIERY CO., Inc., A-6239 Midway, Greenfield, Ohio

Look At These Exceptional FIRST WEEK SPARE TIME EARNINGS

Space permits mentioning only these few exceptional cases, but they give you an idea of the BIG MONEY that is possible in just spare time starting the very first week.

Mr. Richard Peters, Penna. \$63.94 first week spare time	Mrs. W. B. Foss, S. Dak. \$60.47 first week spare time
Mrs. Virgil Hickman, Tenn. \$74.97 first week spare time	Mr. A. E. Lewison, Ga. \$52.26 first week spare time
Mr. Henry O'Rourke, Vermont \$58.89 first week spare time	Mrs. Emery Shoots, Wyo. \$48.69 first week spare time
Mrs. J. A. Sievers, Fla. \$85.14 first week spare time	Mr. J. Hillman Jr., Ohio \$49.72 first week spare time
Mr. Anthony Avrilla, Wash. \$135.00 first week spare time	Mrs. John Gorman, Conn. \$71.54 first week spare time
Mrs. Agnes Michaels, Ind. \$84.18 first week spare time	Mr. W. Riley, Ill. \$72.72 first week spare time
Mr. Russell P. Hart, New York \$53.30 first week spare time	Miss Frances Freeman, Texas \$62.73 first week spare time



A CAR IN 4 MONTHS—AND UP TO \$20 IN A HALF DAY

"I cannot express my thrill upon receiving this beautiful new Chevrolet. I was a bit doubtful at first but now it is a reality and I thank you for making it so. I have earned this car in just four short months and I'm sure others can do the same. Thank you for making it possible for me to earn more money than ever before. I have earned as much as twenty dollars for one half day and my bonus alone for one month was \$125.00." —Mrs. E. A. Conway.

NEW CAR GIVEN—OR IF YOU ALREADY HAVE A CAR YOU CAN GET A NEW ONE ON OUR "TRADE-IN" PLAN

WIL-KNIT actually gives new Fords, Plymouths or Chevrolets to producers as a bonus in addition to your regular earnings. It is yours. Or if you now have a car, you can get a new one even quicker under our "trade-in" plan without paying a penny. Get the facts TODAY.

L. Lowell Wilkin, WIL-KNIT HOSIERY CO., Inc. Be Sure to Send
A-6239 Midway, GREENFIELD, OHIO Hose Size

Please rush all facts about your guaranteed hosiery money-making plan and NEW CAR offer. Everything you send me now is FREE.

MY HOSE SIZE IS _____ MY AGE IS _____ YEARS

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

You Practice Broadcasting with Parts I Send

As part of my Communications Course I send you kits of parts to build the low-power Broadcasting Transmitter shown at left. You use it to get practical experience putting this station "on the air," performing procedures demanded of broadcasting station operators. Training plus opportunity is the PERFECT COMBINATION for job security, good pay, advancement. An FCC Commercial Operator's License can be your ticket to a better job and a bright future and my Communications Course gives you the training you need to get your license. Mail coupon below and see in my book other valuable equipment you build. All equipment I send is yours to keep.

J. E. Smith has trained more men for Radio-TV than any other man.

You Practice Servicing with Parts I Send

Nothing takes the place of PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE. That's why NRI training is based on LEARNING BY DOING. You use parts I furnish to build many circuits common to both Radio and Television. With my Servicing Course you build the modern Radio shown at left. You build an electronic Multitester which you use to help fix sets while training at home. Many students make \$10, \$15 a week extra fixing neighbors' sets in spare time, starting soon after enrolling. I send you special booklets that show you how. Mail coupon for my big 64-page book and actual Servicing Lesson, both FREE. See other equipment you build and keep.

I Will Train You at Home to be a RADIO-TELEVISION Technician

TELEVISION

Today's Good Job Maker

TV now reaches from coast-to-coast. Over 25 million TV sets are now in use; about 200 TV stations are on the air; hundreds more being built. This means more jobs, good pay jobs with bright futures. Now is the time to get ready for success in TV. Find out what Radio-Television offers you. Mail coupon now for my 2 Books FREE!

America's Fast Growing Industry Offers You Good Pay, Success

Do you want a good pay job, a bright future, security? Then get into the fast growing RADIO-TELEVISION industry. Hundreds I've trained are successful RADIO-TELEVISION TECHNICIANS. Most had no previous experience, many no more than grammar school education. Keep your job while training at home. Learn RADIO-TELEVISION principles from easy-to-understand lessons. Get practical experience on actual equipment you build with parts I send you.

Make Extra Money in Spare Time While Training

The day you enroll I start sending you SPECIAL BOOKLETS that show you how to service neighbors' Radios in spare time while training. Use MULTITESTER you build to help service sets, get practical experience working on circuits common to both Radio and Television. Find out how you can realize your ambition to be successful in the prosperous RADIO-TELEVISION industry. Even without Television, the industry is bigger than ever before. 115 million home and auto Radios, over 3000 Radio Stations, expanding Aviation and Police Radio. Micro-wave Relay, FM and Television are making opportunities for Servicing and Communications Technicians.

Mail Coupon — Find Out What Radio-TV Offers You

Send for my FREE DOUBLE OFFER. Cut out and mail coupon below. Send in envelope or paste on postal. You will get actual Servicing Lesson to prove it's practical to learn at home. You'll also receive my 64-page Book, "How to Be a Success in Radio-Television." Read what my graduates are doing, earning, see photos of equipment you practice with at home. J. E. Smith, President, Dept. 4BK, National Radio Institute, Washington 9, D. C.

Good for Both—FREE

MR. J. E. SMITH, President, Dept. 4BK
National Radio Institute, Washington 9, D. C.
Mail me Sample Lesson and 64-page Book, FREE. (No salesmen will call. Please write plainly.)

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____
City _____ Zone _____ State _____

VETS write in date of discharge _____

The ABC's of SERVICING

How to Be a Success in RADIO-TELEVISION

I TRAINED THESE MEN

Has Growing Business

"I am becoming an expert Technician as well as Radiotician. Without your practical course I feel this would have been impossible. My business continues to grow."
—Philip G. Brogan, Louisville, Ky.

Good Job with Station

"I am Broadcast Engineer at WJPM. Another technician and I have opened a Radio-TV service shop in our spare time. Big TV sales here. As a result we have more work than we can handle."—J. H. Bangley, Jr., Suffolk, Va.

Praises NRI as Best Course

"I was a high school student when I enrolled. My friends began to bring their Radios to me. I realized a profit of \$300 by the time I completed the course."—John Hopper, Nitro, West Va.

AVAILABLE to all qualified **VETERANS** UNDER G.I. BILLS

NRI Training Leads to Good Jobs Like These



Broadcasting: Chief Technician, Chief Operator, Power Monitor, Recording Operator, Remote Control Operator, Servicing: Home and Auto Radios, P.A. Systems, Television Receivers, Electronic Controls, FM Radios. In Radio Plants: Design Assistant, Transmitter Design Technician, Tester, Serviceman, Service Manager. Ship and Harbor Radio: Chief Operator, Assistant Operator, Radiotelephone Operator. Government Radio: Operator in Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard; Forestry Service Dispatcher, Airways Radio Operator. Aviation Radio: Transmitter Technician, Receiver Technician, Airport Transmitter Operator. Television: Pick-up Operator, Voice Transmitter Operator, Television Technician, Remote Control Operator, Service and Maintenance Technician.

Operator, Assistant Operator, Radiotelephone Operator. Government Radio: Operator in Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard; Forestry Service Dispatcher, Airways Radio Operator. Aviation Radio: Transmitter Technician, Receiver Technician, Airport Transmitter Operator. Television: Pick-up Operator, Voice Transmitter Operator, Television Technician, Remote Control Operator, Service and Maintenance Technician.



Tested Way to Better Pay

\$15²⁰ an hour!



WILLIAM F. WYDALLIS

"Most specialty salesmen are always on the lookout for a 'natural'. The 'natural' of this decade is the PRESTO FIRE EXTINGUISHER... because it is handy in size, simple to operate, and in the right price range.

"For every hour I have devoted to the Presto, I find that I have earned an average of \$15.20 an hour. I am now convinced that extraordinary money can be made in this safety field. I am devoting more of my time to this product now since I have discovered that the earnings on this item are greater than any item I have handled in the past."

—William F. Wydallis
Van Wert, Ohio

CHARLES KAMA

This Presto salesman from Texas was featured at "Salesman of the Month" on the front cover of a sales magazine. He told the magazine's reporter:

"I think I've succeeded pretty well. I'm making more than a thousand dollars a month—and I haven't touched bottom yet."

**MERLITE INDUSTRIES, Inc., Dept. 1252,
201 East 16th Street, New York 3, N. Y.**

Please send me illustrated sales literature, liberal profit plan, order blanks—everything I need to get started making good money introducing the Presto Fire Extinguisher in my locality.

- ☐ CHECK HERE IF YOU WISH TO ORDER A REGULAR PRESTO TO BE USED AS A DEMONSTRATOR (\$2.50). Pays for itself many times over in increased sales. Can be returned as often as you like for FREE re-fill. You needn't enclose any money now—we'll send Demonstrator C.O.D. (Or if you wish to save money, enclose \$2.50 and we'll pay postage.)
- ☐ If under 18 years of age, check here for Booklet A.

Name.....

Address.....

City..... Zone No. (if any)..... State.....

IN CANADA: Mopa Co., Ltd., 371 Dowd Street, Montreal 1, P.Q.

This is the average earning reported by Presto salesman WM. F. WYDALLIS. "The sky's the limit" on Presto profits because of America's serious need for this new fire extinguishing discovery.

WOULDN'T YOU like to be making the kind of money William F. Wydallis is making? His story (printed at right) is just one example of the brilliant success that Presto salesmen are meeting everywhere! A Florida salesman earned \$600 in one month. An Ohio man earned \$2100 in 2 months. A new York salesman earned \$1500 in one month. A New Hampshire salesman added the Presto as a *sideline* and picked up an extra \$1800 in 20 months.

Almost Two Million Already Sold!

PRESTO contains an amazing new chemical "Chlorobromomethane" or "C.B." developed as a secret defense against fire during the war.

In comparing the effectiveness of "C.B." in fighting various kinds of fires an authoritative testing laboratory states: "It has been proved that 'C.B.' is about 1.5 to 6 times as effective as other common extinguishing agents on an equal weight basis."

This extra effectiveness of "C.B." means that Presto can be made light and handy enough for even a woman or child to use. Just a twist of the knob... and flames disappear! "Sells on sight" to civil defense workers, owners of homes, cars, stores, farms, service stations, boats, motorcycles, factories, offices and to stores for re-sale.

Advertised in LIFE Magazine

Everyone is terrified at the very thought of FIRE! Every year fire kills more than 11,000 people. Most people who see Presto in action want one or more—**ESPECIALLY WHEN THE PRICE IS ONLY \$3.98 EACH!**

You can demonstrate Presto in a few minutes, and every sale will net you \$1 or more. We refill your demonstrator free... and we give you dramatically powerful printed sales material to "talk from"... free certificates testifying that Presto is **GUARANTEED FOR 20 YEARS.**

YOU DON'T NEED TO INVEST A PENNY. Just collect and keep \$1 or more every time you write an order—we collect the balance and deliver the extinguisher. (Or if you wish, you can buy from us at extra-low wholesale prices and then make up to

\$2.18 profit per unit supplying both dealers and retail customers—we'll send you free details.)

Start Now-Mail Coupon

Get started in this rich new field now. Don't "put it off"! Every day you hesitate may cost you \$10, \$15, or even \$50 you could otherwise be making. Mail the coupon at right NOW for everything you need to get started right away!

MERLITE INDUSTRIES, Inc., Dept. 1252, 201 East 16th Street, New York 3, N. Y.

Best Selling Months Just Ahead!
Don't Delay—Mail coupon Now!

Folks Are Amazed when you Tell Them This New Kind of Protection Costs Only

\$3⁹⁸



Only Presto Has All These Features!

- Ends Fire as Fast as 2 Seconds
- Chemical Contents 1.5 to 6 Times More Effective than Others on an Equal Weight Basis
- Weighs Less Than 1 Lb.
- Easily Held in One Hand—Even by a Child
- Needs No Inspection or Re-Charging—Does Not Corrode or Deteriorate
- Costs Only \$3.98—Yet Out-Performs Bulky Extinguishers Costing Several Times as Much
- Automatic Pressure—No Pumping
- Guaranteed for 20 Years—Certificate is Packed with Every Presto